

## Shoalhaven Arts Board

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, 21 June, 2018

**Location:** Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra

**Time:** 1.00pm

**Please note:** Council's Code of Meeting Practice permits the electronic recording and broadcast of the proceedings of meetings of the Council which are open to the public. Your attendance at this meeting is taken as consent to the possibility that your image and/or voice may be recorded and broadcast to the public.

## Agenda

### 1. Apologies

### 2. Confirmation of Minutes

- Shoalhaven Arts Board - 23 May 2018

### 3. Declarations of Interest

### 4. Presentations

AB18.13 Ulladulla - One Track for All - Maintenance of Carved Timber Plaques and Sculptures

Robyn Russell, resident, will be giving a presentation to the Board.

AB18.14 Anna Thompson - Arts Grant recipient 2017/18

AB18.15 Syd Green - Arts Grant recipient 2017/18

### 5. Reports

AB18.16 Buskers Festival Investigation - reallocating Arts Awards Funding..... 1

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AB18.18 Shoalhaven Arts Board Art Acquisition Sub-Committee report..... 13

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AB18.20 Shoalhaven Arts Board Action Plan 2018/19..... 19

AB18.21 Shoalhaven City Art Collection Valuation Highlights..... 31

### 6. General Business

**Membership**

Clr John Wells – Chairperson  
Clr Kaye Gartner  
Clr John Levett  
Mr Ian Grant  
Ms Alison Chiam  
Ms Karen Morrow Akehurst  
Ms Barbara Dawson  
Dr. Peter Lavelle  
Mr Shane Brown  
Mr Rob Crow

Quorum – Majority of the members.

**Purpose**

- a) To contribute to and develop strategy and policy both for the Shoalhaven City Council as well as in alignment with the Region.
- b) To develop and implement policy, planning and vision for the broad arts within existing resources and use a co-opted panel of peers for professional advice. They include:
  - Visual Arts
  - Heritage and Museum Sector
  - Literature
  - Performing Arts
- c) Advocate and maintain specific arts related portfolios.
- d) Advocate and promote Board recommendations.

**Delegated Authority**

- Act within adopted budgets aligning with Council's strategic plans and document, and make recommendations on the arts to Council
- Appoint suitable representatives to fill casual vacancies on a set term basis
- Inform and recommend policy for arts related funding programs, and where required by Council, vote on related matters
- Establish a peer panel of professionals, experts and practitioners across art forms, heritage and cultural platforms to be co-opted as needed for input and advice to the Shoalhaven Arts Board
- Establish a Shoalhaven Arts Foundation:
  - To support the development and enrichment of broad arts across the Shoalhaven including visual, heritage, literature & performing arts
  - To ensure that the Foundation in its governance, membership and charter are independent/ and at arms-length from Council yet works in concert with the Shoalhaven Arts Board, Council and the community needs
  - To fundraise and develop a sustainable principal investment to generate ongoing grant funds

Relevant staff will work collaboratively with the Shoalhaven Arts Board to:

- Develop and implement activities to achieve objectives in line with the Shoalhaven Arts Board recommendations, the Council's policies and corporate plan

## AB18.16 Buskers Festival Investigation - reallocating Arts Awards Funding

**HPERM Ref:** D18/83566

**Group:** Finance Corporate & Community Services Group  
**Section:** Recreation Community & Culture

**Attachments:** 1. Minutes of Shoalhaven Arts Board - 8 February 2018 - Item AB18.6 [↓](#)

### Purpose / Summary

To report back on investigations into a Buskers Festival for Nowra CBD, to be funded with \$7,500 from the repurposed Shoalhaven Arts Board Awards funds.

### Recommendation

1. That the Shoalhaven Arts Board allocates \$7,500 from the Arts Board Awards budget to be donated to support a busking programme and competition, to be presented as part of the 2018 Shoalhaven River Festival.
2. The funds are to be utilised by The River Festival Committee to engage the support of a professional company to assist with the engagement and management of the busking acts.
3. Should the donation not be finalised by June 30, 2018, these funds should be revoted by Shoalhaven City Council.
4. The Shoalhaven Arts Board receive prominent recognition of its support and be promoted as a major supporter of The River Festival by the Committee.
5. The Shoalhaven River Festival Committee be made aware that this financial support would not be available on an annual or ongoing basis.

### Options

1. The remaining funds, of \$7,500, be donated to support a busking competition at the 2018 Shoalhaven River Festival, a Section 355 Committee of Shoalhaven City Council.

Implications: Boost the programming content and variety of the Shoalhaven River Festival offering. This option would fully expend the Arts Board allocation on employing artists, raising the profile of the performing arts, and making the performing arts accessible at a free festival.

2. The remaining funds, approximately \$7,500, be returned to Council.

Implications: Loss of funding to the arts in the Shoalhaven. This would also be a lost opportunity to raise the profile of the Shoalhaven Arts Board.

### Background

The Shoalhaven Arts Board Awards have been held biennially for more than 10 years. The awards presented an opportunity to recognise, encourage and support the creative arts,

community arts, cultural organisations and volunteers in the arts, culture and heritage sector. The awards system has been reviewed on two (2) past occasions due to low levels of interest and limited nominations. The Awards were due to be held in late 2017. They were cancelled due to insufficient nominations.

As a consequence, the Board will recall that it established a working group to explore options to make the best use of the available funds. The Board receives a Council funding allocation of \$4,500 per year towards the biennial awards. Currently there is \$13,843 in this budget line, of which the Board voted to repurpose \$4,500 of the existing budget on delivering digital marketing workshops for community festival and event committees which program the visual or performing arts.

The following actions have been taken to progress this with a local Shoalhaven company - The Business Sessions – being engaged to deliver:

- Digital Marketing workshops at Nowra, on June 21, and Ulladulla on June 22, 2018;
- Facebook and Instagram workshops at Nowra on July 3, and Ulladulla on July 6;
- Email Marketing workshops at Nowra on July 24, and Ulladulla, on July 26.

A digital marketing toolkit will also be developed and available via Council's website as an ongoing resource. These workshops have been promoted via direct marketing to the Nowra CBD Revitalisation Committee, festival and event committees, and community arts organisations.

Further, the Board at its meeting on 8 February 2018 resolved:

*“That staff investigate and report back to the Committee on the possibility of reallocating Arts Award funding to the possibility of an event such as Nowra Buskers Festival.”*

The following actions have been taken to investigate opportunities for a Nowra Buskers Festival:

Desk research of busking festivals across regional Australia has been undertaken, and an interview with a leading regional busking festival director, reveal funds of \$7,500 are not sufficient to create, programme, market, insure, develop traffic management plans, fire management plans, security, and delivery of a busking festival as a stand-alone event.

In addition to this Shoalhaven City Council does not have an events resource for event delivery of a Buskers Festival. Many busking festivals are volunteer-run community events, commonly hosted by service clubs, which are reliant on volunteer labour.

Staff contacted the Coffs Harbour International Buskers and Comedy Festival which was operated by Coffs Harbour City Council in partnership with private enterprise, and is now privately owned by John Logan Entertainment, to ascertain how this event operated.

The event owner, John Logan, of John Logan Entertainment, who has more than 20 years' experience in sourcing national and international busking talent, is now syndicating elements of his festival and on-selling programmes to busking events across New South Wales – including a festival in Armidale, and the Kiss Arts Festival in Kiama.

The advice received indicated that a common mistake made at Busking Festivals is that without a central location it is difficult to attract an audience of a scale and retain their attention, and further that a dispersed audience across a range of sites (such as the Nowra CBD) does not create a critical mass or festival atmosphere. John Logan Entertainment advised that funding of \$7,500 was insufficient to support a stand-alone festival in Nowra CBD.

Hence, a preliminary approach was made to the Shoalhaven River Festival Committee to ascertain if they would be interested in expanding their current busking program within the Festival with a potential funding source coming via a donation from the Shoalhaven Arts

Board. The Chair of the Shoalhaven River Festival Committee is amenable in principle to this suggestion subject to consultation with the Committee.

The Shoalhaven Arts Board needs to consider if this is an opportunity they wish to explore further and potentially support. Should the Board determine to make a donation of Arts Board funds towards the expansion of the existing busking program, its support will need to receive prominent recognition and be promoted as a major supporter of the Festival by the organising Committee. Additionally, the Shoalhaven River Festival Committee would need to be aware that this financial support would not be available on an annual or ongoing basis.

It is suggested that should this approach be acceptable to the Board and the Shoalhaven River Festival Committee, that the Committee works with a professional company to utilise the funding to support a program of regional performers and national busking acts.

The selection and engagement of a suitable promoter would be the responsibility of the Shoalhaven River Festival Committee. John Logan Entertainment is potentially available to syndicate acts or consult on programming of a busking event within the Shoalhaven River Festival should this be required by the Committee

### **Community Engagement**

Incorporating a busking competition into the Shoalhaven River Festival, should the River Festival Committee be agreeable, would potentially increase the community engagement aspect of this event via programming regional talent.

Increased opportunities for paid performances are essential to artists being financially supported to develop their practice and performance skills.

There are perceived benefits in terms of boosting the Shoalhaven Arts Board's connections by actively promoting and supporting street performers, roving entertainers, physical theatre acts, and musicians.

### **Financial Implications**

In job number 21596.13220.10722 there is \$13,843, of which \$4,500 is allocated to the range of workshops referred to in this report. The balance of funding available is \$9,343. The Shoalhaven Arts Board, under its Terms of Reference, has delegation to donate \$7,500 to support a Busking Festival should it choose.

## Shoalhaven City Council

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### MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN ARTS BOARD

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, 8 February 2018  
**Location:** Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra  
**Time:** 1.00pm

The following members were present:

Clr John Wells - Chairperson  
Clr Kaye Gartner – arrived 1.05pm  
Clr John Levett – arrived 1.03pm  
Ms Alison Chiam  
Ms Karen Akehurst  
Mr Peter Lavelle

Others Present

Clr White  
Jane Lewis – Recreation, Community and Culture Manager  
Coralie Bell – Tourism Manager  
Karen Patterson – SEC Manager  
Bronwyn Coulston – Arts and Culture Manager  
Robin Sharpe – Outreach and Digital Services Manager

#### Apologies / Leave of Absence

An apology was received from Barbara Dawson.

It was also noted that Ian Grant had forwarded his resignation to the Chairperson. Jane Lewis – Manager Recreation, Community and Culture advised that this can be filled as a casual appointment by the Shoalhaven Arts Board.

#### AB18.5 Additional Item - Condolences to Barbara Dawson

Clr Wells – Chairperson of the Shoalhaven Arts Board and the members of the Shoalhaven Arts Board conveyed their condolences to Barbara Dawson for the loss of her brother.

#### Confirmation of the Minutes

Note: Clr Levett arrived 1.03pm

**RESOLVED** (Karen Akehurst / Peter Lavelle)

That the Minutes of the Shoalhaven Arts Board held on Thursday 07 December 2017 be confirmed.

CARRIED

#### Declarations of Interest

Nil

#### REPORTS

<b>AB18.1</b>	<b>Support for Funding Request - Shoalhaven Regional Gallery Climate Control System</b>
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<b>HPERM Ref:</b> <b>D18/25664</b>
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Note: Cllr Gartner arrived 1.05pm

Cllr Wells and the members are in support of the request and it was suggested that this matter be reported to Council for allocation of the funds.

#### Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board

1. Endorses the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery request for \$600,000 in capital allocation to the replacement and upgrade of the Climate Control System across the galleries.
2. Champions the integral role of the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery in the cultural fabric of the region and the need to have a climate control system that meets industry standards.

#### RECOMMENDATION (Cllr Wells / Cllr Levett)

That:

1. Council vote \$600,000 from the Strategic Project Reserve for the replacement and upgrade of the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery Climate Control System
2. Staff seek any Grant Funding that may be available to assist with the forgoing capital cost
3. The Shoalhaven Arts Board champions the integral role of the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery in the cultural fabric of the region and the need to have a climate control system that meets industry standards

CARRIED

<b>AB18.2</b>	<b>Events and Festivals Based Awards System - Nominations and Process and Presentation</b>
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<b>HPERM Ref:</b> <b>D18/30133</b>
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It was noted that this will need to be considered by the Mayor in conjunction with the Australia Day Panel.

It was suggested that this matter be deferred to allow staff to meet with the Working Group and the Mayor.

#### Recommendation

That:

1. Invitations are extended to representatives from all arts organisations in the Shoalhaven to attend an awards focus group, attached to the proposed professional development workshop.
2. The awards be incorporated in the annual Australian Day Awards in two categories:
  - a. Outstanding emerging artist – any art form
  - b. Outstanding contribution to arts and culture

#### RESOLVED (Karen Akehurst / Clr Gartner)

That:

1. This matter be deferred pending further discussions with the Mayor and the Working Group in the near future.
2. A report be provided by staff to the Board on the outcome of the discussions.

CARRIED

#### AB18.6 Additional Item - Arts Awards and Nowra Buskers Festival

Clr Wells advised that the Arts Board needs to revote funds from the Arts Awards to another purpose. The Balance is approximately \$7,500

It was suggested that some funding could possibly go towards hosting a Nowra Buskers Festival

Jane Lewis – Manager Recreation, Community and Culture advised that Staff can research and report back to the Committee for the possibilities of repurposing the funds.

The report can also include consultation with Steve Russnello from South Coast Tickets regarding ticket sales for such an event.

A recent document by MyTravelResearch that was presented to the Nowra CBD Revitalisation Committee will be attached to the Minutes.

#### RESOLVED (By consent)

That staff investigate and report back to the Committee on the possibility of reallocating Arts Award funding to the possibility of an event such as Nowra Buskers Festival.

CARRIED

#### AB18.3 Establishment of an Arts Foundation

HPERM Ref:  
D18/30221

The Committee discussed the need for the right expertise for membership of a working group to work on establishing an Arts Foundation.

The Working Group can invite relevant stakeholders as required.

Legal fees are estimated at \$20-25,000.

#### Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board form a Sub-committee to establish a Shoalhaven Arts Foundation,



consisting of the following members, (insert names).

**RESOLVED** (By consent)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board:

1. Form a Working Party to establish a Shoalhaven Arts Foundation, consisting of the following members:
  - a. Allan Baptist
  - b. Alison Chiam
  - c. Nominated Council Staff
  - d. Cllr Patricia White
2. That the working party have the ability to invite relevant stakeholders as required
3. That the working party provide updates to the Shoalhaven Arts Board

CARRIED

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**AB18.7 Additional Item - Lake Tabourie Museum**

Cllr White - advised that she had recently attended a CCB meeting at Lake Tabourie where an item was raised about the Lake Tabourie Museum.

It was noted at this meeting that the Museum had a visit from a Museum Professional as part of the Museum Advisor Program. The representative made comments that the Museum may hold State and National significant pieces.

Bronwyn Coulston – Arts and Culture Manager advised that Council entered into an agreement with Museums and Galleries NSW (MGNSW) employ a consultant (Margo Jolly). The representative works with nominated museums and has been to a number of museums in the Shoalhaven. The representative will work with Museums and their collection records to elevate the museum practices.

**AB18.4 Verbal Updates - Entertainment Centre, Libraries and Arts**

**HPERM Ref:**  
**D18/27854**

**Art Gallery – Bronwyn Coulston**

- Collection Valuation completed, waiting on final report
- Discussions have started with Sydney Living Museums regarding expanding our support for the Meroogal Women's Arts Prize and furthering our partnership with them
- The Museum Advisor Program – a joint project between SCC and MGNSW has started with 5 volunteer led museums in the Shoalhaven now working with museum professional Margot Jolly. Margot has completed her first visit to the museums and will undertake 20 days per annum of consultation and support.
- The Gallery recently completed the MGNSW Standards Program which helps us to identify areas of growth to come into line with national standards for collecting institutions. The final report has been received and the recommendations will be considered against the 2020 strategic plan.

- Events
  - Summer sessions to farewell Soft Core went very well with around 150 people taking part in various activities across the day
  - The Margaret Dredge exhibition was well received with 35 people attending the 'In Conversation' Event.
  - Opening of the current exhibitions saw over 300 people at the galleries. The Iconic Houses exhibition was opened by Lindsay Johnston, Convenor, Architecture Foundation Australia.
- Upcoming events and exhibition
  - Promiscuous Provenance by Anna Glynn is the major exhibition the gallery has commissioned in 2018. This exhibition will tour following the show at SRGN, and we already have 4 definite tour venues and a further 3 enquiries.
  - Jamberoo Mountain Road – opening 9<sup>th</sup> June will be a significant exhibition with several contemporary Australian artists taking part including Ann Cape, Elisabeth Cummings, Euan Macleod, Guy Warren and Luke Sciberras.
  - We have been approached by a significant Australian contemporary artist to consider a survey show of their works in 2019. This is an opportunity we are working to achieve, but is dependent on improving gallery climate control systems.

#### **SEC Update – Karen Patterson**

##### **Highlights for Q2**

- Inclusion of 10 additional wheelchair seats in Auditorium
- 3 sold out shows: Guy Sebastian x1/Carl Barron x 2 shows
- Quarter on Quarter 46.5% increase box office sales
- For Entertainment Centre entrepreneurial shows this is a jump from 813 to 2,750

##### **Queens Baton Relay**

- Final stop was at SEC. Looked great. Excellent community event. SEC delivered an intensive community engagement activity. 20 children attended the centre for three hours Wednesday to Friday last week, and then all day on Saturday and Sunday where they devised a performance on the premise of Pass Me The Baton! They worked with Queensland's Circa Training School and Livewire Studios from Milton. Their performances were excellent. Great feedback from the 10-15 year olds and their families.

##### **Coming up:**

- The first show for our 2018 Season this Saturday – Tapestry – sold more than 660 tickets
- On Feb 28 the centre is showing a ripping yarn of an Australian play by Last Cab to Dawrin writer Reg Cribb. It's a 5-hander and we'd love to have your support. Members were asked – if they would like to see more great Australian writing and powerful stories from here and abroad to come and see a show.
- Advance bookings for commercial hires are extremely healthy.

**Working on:** Sponsorship policy, an internal uniform policy, and we're currently scoping our 3-5 year business & marketing plan.

##### **Workshops:**

The Tourism Department's Shannan Perry-Hall is seeking quotes from two local companies. One of our ideas is to seek quotes from a regional even marketing guru so that the workshop can be relatable in terms of local events, marketing channels media etc. Evaluation tools and results used for local events.

It is intended these workshops, focusing on social media and data collection( to assist with event evaluation and eligibility for grant applications) will be delivered in the north and the south of the Shoalhaven in winter – traditionally a quieter time for event planners/committees. The intention is

to offer a post-workshop networking opportunity.

We're aiming to have the toolkit available in May. It will be linked to Council's tourism grant opportunities. The toolkit will also highlight available grants both local and State. The toolkit will sit within the Business-to-business website for Events on Council's Tourism website.

#### Library Services – Robin Sharpe

- Preparing to take delivery of the new Library Mobile Van that will be used predominantly in the Southern part of the Shoalhaven. This vehicle does not require a special driver's licence allowing all staff to potentially use it. The current schedule is being reviewed in order to accommodate the new van. Launch date is July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The Gen Connect program (delivered in partnership by Shoalhaven Libraries and Community Development) that provides tech assistance to seniors delivered by students of Nowra High has been nominated for a Local Government Excellence Award. This program ran in 2017 and provided much needed one on one tech assistance and also had a huge social connection and engagement impact for both seniors and young people.
- Shoalhaven Libraries have been promoting their newest e resources including OverDrive and Borrow Box which are ebook and e-audio platforms, Kanopy and Beamafilm which are film streaming products and Pressreader which contains over 7000 newspapers from around the globe. These resources are user-friendly and the promotion has been very successful.
- The café in the library foyer will reopen in the coming weeks under the operation of aquatics.

#### AB18.8 Additional Item - Shoalhaven Literary Awards - Incorporation

Clr Wells advised that the Shoalhaven Branch – of the Fellowship of Australian Writers can no longer take on the Shoalhaven Literary Awards. Council had already provided a donation for \$1,500 to the Fellowship of Australian Writers. Clr Wells advised they wished to return the funds.

It was suggested that the Awards be held in conjunction with the Shoalhaven Readers and Writers Festival.

Karen Akehurst (Event Coordinator – Shoalhaven Readers and Writers Festival) advised that she will contact Colleen Duncan to discuss the possibility.

#### RESOLVED (By consent)

That Council:

1. Confirm with Fellowship of Australian Writers NSW that they are not going ahead with the Shoalhaven Literary Awards 2018

If part 1 is confirmed,

2. Seek the return of the \$1,500 donation that has already been allocated.

CARRIED

#### AB18.10 Additional Item - Albury City Council - 2017 Creative Economy Strategy

Jane Lewis – Manager Recreation, Community and Culture advised that she had met with representatives from Albury City Council presented their Albury Creative Economy Strategy 2017-2021.

The plan took a number of years to create and was established by the Economic Development Department.

The Plan covers Arts and Culture and how this has an economic impact on the City. There is also a range of data in the plan. The links to the documents are as follows:

Landing Page:

<http://investalbury.com.au/resources/ecodev-reports>

Direct Link:

<http://online.fliphtml5.com/zfst/apax/>

The Shoalhaven has all of those elements and needs a way that we can bring it all together, with the right help to develop a strategy.

Bendigo is another good example of where arts and culture are strong driver of a Creative Economy. There is huge potential for the Shoalhaven and gives regional areas a point of difference and potential competitive advantage for investment and lifestyle choices.

**RECOMMENDATION** (Clr Wells / Alison Chiam)

That in the planned Councillor Briefing sessions related to CL18.12 – Notice of Motion Health Professionals and Businesses in Shoalhaven and CL18.27 – Beyond Plastic Pollution, the session cover information on the Albury Creative Economy Strategy 2017-2021, taking into account the work done throughout regional Australia in this space.

CARRIED

**AB18.10 Additional Item - Resignation - Ian Grant - Shoalhaven Arts Board**

Clr Wells advised the Committee that he had just received an email from Ian Grant who advised that he will be resigning from the Shoalhaven Arts Board.

Jane Lewis – Manager Recreation, Community and Culture advised that the Shoalhaven Arts Board can fill this as a casual vacancy to and until 30 June 2019.

**RESOLVED** (By Consent)

That a letter be sent to Ian Grant thanking him for his contributions to the Shoalhaven Arts Board.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 3.04pm.

Clr John Wells  
CHAIRPERSON

## AB18.17 NSW Public Libraries Association - Elected Representative - Request for Nominations

HPERM Ref: D18/171271

**Group:** Finance Corporate & Community Services Group  
**Section:** Recreation Community & Culture

### Purpose / Summary

To request a nomination from Councillors to be the Elected representative to the New South Wales Public Libraries Association.

### Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That an elected representative (*insert Councillor name*) is nominated for the New South Wales Public Libraries Association.

### Options

1. Adopt the recommendation

Implications: An Elected representative will be appointed to be the liaison for Shoalhaven City Council with the New South Wales Public Libraries Association

2. Propose an alternative and/or provide further direction to staff.

Implications: Shoalhaven City Council will have no Elected Representative for the New South Wales Public Libraries Association

### Background

The New South Wales Public Libraries Association (NSWPLA) is the peak body for public libraries in New South Wales. The organisation advocates for the public library cause, provides relevant information to stakeholders, fosters cooperation and collaboration and strengthens the public library network.

NSWPLA depends on the support and engagement of Councils across NSW for its strength and prosperity. Councillor engagement in particular is a cornerstone of the Association's capacity. As a member Shoalhaven City Council is entitled to have three representatives to the Association:

- An Elected representative (Councillors – who can lobby government and make political comment and thus strengthen funding campaigns. They are also a key to strengthening the partnership of the association with Local Government New South Wales (LGNSW)).
- An Administration representative – who provides the link from the association into Council and can inform council of the work of the association
- A Library Manager – who provides the professional advice that forms the basis for the work of the association.

Currently the Shoalhaven Library Services Manager is the only representative from Shoalhaven City Council and this report is seeking nominations for the Elected representative position from a current Councillor.

The Elected representative role will act as a liaison with the NSWPLA for Shoalhaven City Council. This will ensure that libraries, and their role in vibrant, healthy communities, are part of regular discussion.

The NSWPLA is committed to continue lobbying for significantly increased State Government funding and will shortly be launching a campaign to support the 368 public libraries provided by Councils across the state in the run up to the 2019 state election.

In addition, there will also be an opportunity for the Elected representative to attend the quarterly Public Libraries South East Zone meetings. The Public Libraries South East Zone comprises of 14 councils and regular meetings are held to discuss contemporary library topics and issues, investigate collaboration opportunities and review general library business.

These meetings are a great opportunity for Library Managers and Elected representatives to meet and discuss contemporary library issues, forge partnerships and work together collaboratively.

### **Policy Implications**

There are no policy implications.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications.

## AB18.18 Shoalhaven Arts Board Art Acquisition Sub-Committee report

**HPERM Ref:** D18/177446

**Group:** Finance Corporate & Community Services Group  
**Section:** Recreation Community & Culture

### Purpose / Summary

To advise the Shoalhaven Arts Board members of the recommendations of the Shoalhaven Arts Board Art Acquisition Sub-Committee regarding additions to the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collections through donations, cultural gifts and purchases.

### Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That Shoalhaven Arts Board:

1. Accept the offer from Gary Shead of 18 works through the Cultural Gifts program and undertake the necessary steps to finalise this gift.
2. Accept the offer from Tom Carment for the work 'Postcards of Currarong' as part of the Cultural Gifts program and undertake the necessary steps to finalise this gift.
3. Accept the donation by Max Dingle of the photographic portrait by Gary Grealy
4. Decline the offer to purchase works from the Bob Baker collection
5. Revisit the offer to purchase works by Andrew Antoniou when he has his solo exhibition at Shoalhaven Regional Gallery in 2021
6. Decline the suggestion of purchasing the work 'Samuel Elyard' by Randall Sinnamon at this time, but continue to consider works by Randall Sinnamon for future acquisitions
7. Request the Manager – Arts and Culture to gather additional information about the works by Fern Martins from her Jimmy Little Totem commission and the Elyard works offered by a community member prior to making a final decision.

### Options

1. Accept the recommendation as printed

Implications: The Shoalhaven City Art Collection will continue to grow in line with the Policy and develop the key collecting areas; increasing the value of the collection both for the community access to a range of visual arts and as a regional gallery collection of significance.

2. Adopt an alternate resolution

Implications: The Shoalhaven City Art Collection may not grow and develop in line with the policy, and current and future donations may be reduced and opportunities for improving the collection through the Cultural Gifts Program may be lost.

### Background

#### Cultural Gift Donation by Gary Shead

(Images and details circulated at meeting.)

Background: Gary is an Illawarra / Sydney based artist, trained at NAS and has works held in state and national collections across Australia. He is a past winner of the Archibald and the Dobell prizes and continues to exhibit widely. The body of works on offer are a significant collection, showing the development of his style over several years.

The proposed donation meets the criteria of the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection (POL18/23) under section 3.1.6 under the following considerations:

- Significance of Artist
- Cost and/or value for money
- Advantageous Opportunities

### **Cultural Gift Donation by Tom Carment**

Background: Tom Carment is a Sydney based artist with a strong relationship to the Shoalhaven. He was the winner of the 2014 NSW Parliament Plein Air Prize and the 2008 Gallipoli Art Prize. He has offered us a framed work made up of 9 smaller works 'Postcards from Currarong' through the Cultural Gifts Program.

The proposed donation meets the criteria of the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection (POL18/23) under section 3.1.6 under the following considerations:

- Significance of Artist
- Local Significance
- Cost and/or value for money
- Advantageous Opportunities

### **Donation of Photograph by Gary Grealy from Max Dingle**

Background: As part of the exhibition *Artist: Maker, Patron, Lover* that toured to the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery in July 2017, Gary Grealy took portraits of a number of local identities including Max Dingle. Max has purchased the image from Gary and is offering it as a donation to the City Art Collection. This work is applicable both due to the subject matter and as a work that has been exhibited at the Gallery as part of our exhibition program.

The proposed donation meets the criteria of the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection (POL18/23) under section 3.1.6 under the following considerations:

- Significance of Artist
- Local Significance
- Cost and/or value for money
- Advantageous Opportunities

### **Offer to Purchase works by Artist Bob Baker**

Background: Bob Baker was a Bodalla based artist who has exhibited almost exclusively at the Hidden Valley Gallery there. In 2013 he had an exhibition of 20 of his works at the CSIRO Discover Centre which went on to tour nationally. Works from his archive are now available and we have been approached to see if we are interested in acquiring any.

While the proposed acquisition meets the Collecting Area 'Contemporary Australian Art', it does not meet the considerations of section 3.1.6 in the Shoalhaven City Art Collection Policy.



**Offer to purchase works by Andrew Antoniou**

Background: Andrew Antoniou has a strong local connection and has previously exhibited at the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery. He will be holding another show at the Gallery in 2021 to conclude a national tour of his works.

While the opportunity to purchase works by Antoniou meets the criteria under section 3.1.6 of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection Policy, the Art Acquisition Sub-committee felt that a decision would be best made closer to the exhibition period, and potentially look to acquire works from the exhibition itself.

**Recommendation to purchase 'Samuel Elyard' by Randall Sinnamon**

Background: Arts Board member Peter Lavelle put forward a recommendation in December 2017 that consideration be given to the purchase of the work 'Samuel Elyard' by Randall Sinnamon. This work has previously been exhibited at the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery as part of the Mental Health Fellowship in 2015 and at Jervis Bay Maritime Museum in 2017. Shoalhaven City Council purchased the work *Bundanon* by Sinnamon in 2016 for the City Art Collection.

While the work fits the criteria of the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection policy, and Sinnamon is a significant local artist, the Art Acquisition Subcommittee felt that this work is not typical of Sinnamon's style, is too large to comfortably store at the Gallery and has limited exhibition opportunities. While acquiring further works by Sinnamon for the collection should be considered by the Board, this work was not felt to be suitable at this time.

**Offer to Purchase 3 preliminary sketches from the Jimmy Little Totem paintings by artist Fern Martins**

Background: Artist Fern Martins was commissioned by Jimmy Little in 2011/12 to paint his family totems. As part of that commission Martins created numerous small pencil gesture drawings and 3 charcoal preliminary drawings. These works have been offered to Shoalhaven City Council for a purchase price of \$1,500.

The Art Acquisition Subcommittee felt there might be a reason to acquire these works due to their relationship to Jimmy Little, however more information about the work is needed before a recommendation can be made.

**Offer to Purchase two Samuel Elyard paintings**

Background: In August 2017 an email was received from a community member offering Shoalhaven City Council the opportunity to purchase two paintings by Samuel Elyard that have been held by the family for a number of years. Further information about the works, including date and price were not able to be obtained prior to the Art Acquisition Subcommittee meeting and so no decision has been made.

The Art Acquisition subcommittee did note that Council now holds a significant number of works by Elyard and that future acquisitions of works by the artist should be considered carefully and made to enhance the existing collection, such as works from an early period not currently represented, works that are of a quality beyond current holdings and works that are the best example of his style. As many Elyard works require stabilisation and conservation and cannot be displayed long term due to the fragile nature of the paint, continuing to collect them without considering the body of works as a whole is not recommended.

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**Community Engagement**

Shoalhaven Regional Gallery provides a broad range of local and nationally significant exhibitions to showcase a cross section of artworks and media. It is important that the City Art Collection supports this, reflects the range of artists and art work produced within the Shoalhaven, and provides an aspirational element to inspire artists and community members.

**Policy Implications**

As per the notes in the Background, all offers to acquire works through donation, cultural gift or purchase have been assessed against the Shoalhaven City Art Collection – Acquisition and Management Policy (POL18/23) and the subclause 3.1.6.

**Financial Implications**

The recommendations made by the Art Acquisition Subcommittee do not require any use of the art acquisition fund for the purchase of works at this stage. Under the Cultural Gift program, we may be required to pay for a certified valuer to provide a valuation of the works offered and will be required to submit the paperwork for these gifts to progress, however that will be funded from the operational budget of the Art Gallery.

## AB18.19 Shoalhaven Arts Board Grants 2018/19

**HPERM Ref:** D18/179869

**Group:** Finance Corporate & Community Services Group  
**Section:** Recreation Community & Culture

### Purpose / Summary

To seek Shoalhaven Arts Board approval for the focus, structure and timing of the 2018/19 Shoalhaven Arts Board Grant program, as funded in the budget.

### Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That:

1. The \$20,000 Shoalhaven Arts Board Grants program be structured as follows:
  - a. Program 1 – Two (2) Grants of up to \$5,000 be offered for ‘Developing the Arts – Sense of Place’
  - b. Program 2 – One (1) grant of up to \$10,000 be offered for ‘Developing Public Art – Themes and Sense of Place’
2. Shoalhaven Arts Board form a working party to assess the applications and provide a recommendation to the Board on suitable projects to fund after the application period has closed.

### Options

1. Adopt the resolution as printed

Implications: The Shoalhaven Arts Board Grants program will continue to develop and support the development of arts and culture in the region and the money associated with the program will be expended.

2. The Shoalhaven Arts Board provide advice on an alternate resolution.

Implications: A significant change to the grant program might jeopardise the growth and development of the program and support for the artists and arts organisations who have come to expect these grants to fund ambitious projects.

### Background

Since 2015/16 the Shoalhaven Arts Board have adopted an approach to their grant funding to fund three major and ambitious projects that develop both public art across the region and also build capacity of artists and arts organisations within the Shoalhaven. The 2013 adopted strategy ‘Developing Public Art – Themes and ‘Sense of Place’ has been used as the guiding document for submissions and decision making and has seen public artworks installed across the region.

The focus of the smaller grants has been on capacity building through encouraging collaboration, best practice and mentorships with field leaders. These grants have seen innovative and engaging projects across a wide range of artforms be delivered and supported with tangible outcomes for individuals and the community.

In 2018/19 it is recommended that the grants continue with the previous focus as artists and arts organisations are now familiar with the structure and are likely to have developed projects or ideas with this structure in mind. Maintaining consistency and continuing to

support innovative and ambitious projects will provide strong outcomes from the program in its 4<sup>th</sup> year.

As per previous timelines, the grant program will be announced in late July / August with submissions due at the end of August. This will provide time for the working party to assess the applications and provide a report to the Board for the September meeting. Successful applicants will be announced following that meeting, providing the artists 8-9 months to complete their projects.

### **Community Engagement**

The Shoalhaven Arts Board Grant program is a key component of the Arts Board community engagement and the strategic plan.

The grant program will be advertised through the public notices in the South Coast Register; through the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery e-news; Facebook pages of SCC and SRG; instagram and other channels as appropriate.

All grant applicants will be encouraged to discuss their project and application with the Unit Manager – Arts and Culture to ensure the applications are aligned and consistent with the criteria for the program they are applying to, and to support the development of grant writing with community based artists and arts organisations.

### **Financial Implications**

The Shoalhaven Arts Board are allocated \$20,000 per financial year for the purpose of distribution to the community through the Arts Grants.

### **Risk Implications**

Reputational Risk if the program is not delivered – the Arts Grants have been in operation for many years and are anticipated and expected. To cancel them or significantly change the way they are delivered without significant community consultation and information could pose a reputational risk for the Shoalhaven Arts Board.

Financial Risk – The grants program contains a financial risk of the grant money being misused by the successful applicant and the funded program not being delivered. This has not previously occurred with the program as the application process, criteria and subsequent recipient contract reduces the risk.

## AB18.20 Shoalhaven Arts Board Action Plan 2018/19

**HPERM Ref:** D18/181555

**Group:** Finance Corporate & Community Services Group  
**Section:** Recreation Community & Culture

**Attachments:** 1. Shoalhaven Arts Board Strategic Plan Final [↓](#)

### Purpose / Summary

To adopt the Shoalhaven Arts Board Action Plan for 2018/19 and undertake actions to achieve the aims of the Strategic Plan “smART Ideals 2017 – 2021”.

### Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That following a workshop held on the 21<sup>st</sup> June, the Shoalhaven Arts Board members will undertake the following actions over the next twelve (12) months with outcomes to be reported on through the Chairman’s annual report.

1. List of actions to be filled in at meeting following the workshop.

### Options

1. Adopt the recommendation

Implications: The Shoalhaven Arts Board will progress their strategic plan and deliver outcomes inline with their Terms of Reference

2. Suggest an alternate Recommendation

Implications: unknown, depending on the recommendation adopted.

### Background

In 2017 the Shoalhaven Arts Board adopted a new strategic plan (attached) for the period 2017-2021. The Plan clearly articulates the Vision, Mission and Values of the Shoalhaven Arts Board and sets out goals, strategies and success indicators. This plan now needs to be put into action with members of the Arts Board leading on the deliverables and indicators of success.

A workshop was conducted prior to the Shoalhaven Arts Board meeting on Thursday 21 June 2018 in order to determine the priorities and actions for the coming twelve (12) months.

### Community Engagement

The Shoalhaven Arts Board - Arts & Cultural Strategic Plan “smART Ideals 2017 -2021” was prepared through two (2) facilitated workshops initially involving the members of the Shoalhaven Arts Board and built on the initial foundation work undertaken by community members of the Board and Council staff. A further workshop with the Shoalhaven Arts Board members, including those newly appointed, was held on 10 August 2017.

**Financial Implications**

While the Shoalhaven Arts Board does not have an allocated budget, there is funding within the Arts and Culture Budget for specific projects usually delivered by the Arts Board, such as the annual Arts Board Grants and the Arts Awards. By developing the 2018/19 Action Plan, aligned to the Strategic Plan, the Arts Board will have a clear direction for allocation of these funds.







**“Creativity and participation in the arts contributes to innovative and sustainable outcomes that benefit everyone in the community, not just those who participate.”**





## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE SHOALHAVEN ARTS BOARD

**The Shoalhaven has a rich history of inspiration and artistic endeavour – from our traditional custodians of the land, the people of the Yuin Nation; to the legacy of the European settlement and development; to artists and craftspeople who have been inspired and captivated by the unique beauty of this region.**

Creativity and cultural expression have always been inherent in our lives. Importantly, the Shoalhaven is a place where arts and culture is recognised as an essential element of our community's vitality and wellbeing. Creativity and participation in the arts contributes to innovative and sustainable outcomes that benefit everyone in the community, not just those who participate.

Shoalhaven City Council has worked with the community to build a strong foundation for Arts & Cultural activity within the region. This relationship, professionally managed by Council staff and guided by the expertise of the Shoalhaven Arts Board, has enabled

Council to actively respond to community needs and successfully develop a series of outstanding initiatives and facilities.

Today the Shoalhaven is generously catered for via its arts places including the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery, Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre, the Milton Theatre, the Ulladulla Civic Centre, four Libraries across the City and a mobile library service which visits towns and villages. In addition there is a range of significant volunteer managed museums, privately run galleries and cultural facilities.

This current 2017-2021 plan will build upon preceding achievements. The framework was developed by Shoalhaven Arts Board members in 2016/17.

I trust that we will continue to realise a growing, rich and mature culture through our strategies and programs that build opportunity and enrichment for arts and culture to flourish throughout the Shoalhaven.

Clr John Wells  
Chair Shoalhaven Arts Board 2017



**Vision:** Make the Shoalhaven a recognised outstanding arts destination that connects people, fosters sustainable communities and celebrates indigenous and contemporary history

Shoalhaven Arts board 2017

## CITY VISION & ARTS CONTEXT

**Council's Vision – “ We will work together in the Shoalhaven to foster a safe and attractive community for people to live, work, stay and play; where sustainable growth, development and environmental protection are managed to provide a unique and relaxed lifestyle. ”**

The Shoalhaven City Council is underpinned by a strong set of objectives and strategies, determined by extensive community consultation undertaken in 2017 to formulate the City's 'Community Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027'.

The Shoalhaven Arts Board Arts & Cultural Strategic Plan fits within the context of state and national peak bodies who provide valuable research and measures which guide the activities in the region.

At a State Government level the Arts NSW 'Create in NSW' Vision is:

*“NSW will be known for its bold and exciting arts and culture that engage our community and reflect our rich diversity”.*

At the Australian Government Federal level the Australia Council for the Arts purpose is: *“To champion and invest in Australian arts. We do this by supporting excellence across all art forms and leveraging our investment in the arts to support and build a vibrant arts ecology”.*



**Vision:** Make the Shoalhaven a recognised outstanding arts destination that connects people, fosters sustainable communities and celebrates indigenous and contemporary history



**Mission:** Shoalhaven Arts Board actively connects and engages with artists, audiences, businesses and visitors to develop social, cultural, economic and capital excellence



**Values:** Shoalhaven Arts Board values the role of the Arts in stimulating, inspiring and supporting innovative artistic expression that benefits the community



## VISION FOR ART & CULTURE AND THE ROLE OF THE ARTS BOARD

**Council established ‘The Shoalhaven Arts Board’ in 1998.**

**Council recognises the value and place of creative expression, cultural facilities and innovative arts activities, and embraces a strategic direction to facilitate progressive cultural development across the City.**

To guide this development each member of the Shoalhaven Arts Board will be responsible for maintaining and reporting on a specific portfolio.

The Shoalhaven Arts Board membership is made up of representatives from the local Shoalhaven community, including a Local Aboriginal member, and Councillors. Members of the Board come from a range of backgrounds and bring a rich spectrum of skills and capabilities, expertise and advice. The Board aims to include representatives from health and wellbeing, arts institutions, education, arts practitioners, the corporate/business sector and elected Councillors.

The Shoalhaven Arts Board Terms of Reference identify the purpose of the Board as:

- a. To contribute to and develop strategy and policy both for the Shoalhaven City Council as well as in alignment with the Region.
- b. To develop and implement policy, planning and vision for the broad arts within existing resources and use a co-opted panel of peers for professional advice.

They include:

- **Visual Arts**
  - **Heritage and Museum Sector**
  - **Literature**
  - **Performing Arts**
- c. Advocate and maintain specific arts related portfolios
  - d. Advocate and promote Board recommendations

## REVIEW, EVALUATION & REPORTING

The chair and members of the Shoalhaven Arts Board will undertake an annual review and prepare a report to Council on the Goals, Strategies and Success Indicators. This will be presented at the end of each financial year.

Shoalhaven Arts Board (SAB) Strategic Plan 2017 - 2021

# smART IDEAS

**Vision:** Make the Shoalhaven a recognised outstanding arts destination that connects people, fosters sustainable communities and celebrates indigenous and contemporary history

**Mission:** Shoalhaven Arts Board actively connects and engages with artists, audiences, businesses and visitors to develop social, cultural, economic and capital excellence

**Values:** Shoalhaven Arts Board values the role of the Arts in stimulating, inspiring and supporting innovative artistic expression that benefits the community



## PEOPLE

- A city that builds inclusive, safe & connected communities
- Activated communities through arts, culture & events
- Active, healthy liveable communities



## PLACE

- Continually improving our road & transport infrastructure
- Manage & plan sustainable development
- Showcase and protect the natural environment



## ECONOMY

- Attracting, retaining and growing business & partnerships
- Maintaining an innovative robust economy & vibrant towns & villages



## STEWARDSHIP

- Reliable services that meet daily community needs
- Strong leadership & advocacy through effective government

Key Priorities



GOALS	<b>1. RECOGNITION &amp; ADVOCACY</b>  The Shoalhaven is a place where participation in arts and culture contributes to innovative and sustainable outcomes that benefit the community  This goal seeks to ensure that – together with economic, social and environmental factors - arts and culture is recognised as vital to a healthy, connected and sustainable community	<b>2. IDENTITY &amp; DESTINATION</b>  This goal seeks to promote and further develop cultural tourism in the Shoalhaven.  The Shoalhaven Arts Board (SAB) will advocate the Shoalhaven as a cultural destination and partner with Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Group (STAG) to assist in product development	<b>3. ENJOYMENT &amp; LEARNING</b>  Support opportunities for artistic collaboration in the community	<b>4. ENRICH &amp; EXPAND THE ARTS</b>  Support stronger ties between the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery (SRG), Libraries and Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre (SEC)  Advocate for the development of an Arts & Culture precinct in Nowra	<b>5. ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ARTS FOUNDATION</b>  Investigate the feasibility of an Arts Foundation The Foundation would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the development &amp; enrichment of broad arts</li> <li>Fundraise and develop a sustainable principal investment to generate ongoing funds</li> </ul>
STRATEGIES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby Council to ensure arts and culture is acknowledged as a vital factor in building sustainable communities</li> <li>Provide advice to Council and stakeholders on how to integrate arts and culture in all elements of planning and policy making</li> <li>Advise stakeholders on the development of measurable outcomes for arts projects</li> <li>Advocate on behalf of the Arts and Cultural institutions of the Shoalhaven to promote the arts</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the development of public art projects, including the 'Outdoor Gallery' throughout the Shoalhaven</li> <li>Support Arts organisations through grants and donations programs</li> <li>Support the development of a curated season of arts and entertainment presented at the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre</li> <li>Support the development of a curated exhibitions calendar at the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery</li> <li>Support the expansion of NOW Contemporary Art Exhibition to become a biennial regional prize</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage audience development across the arts and culture sector</li> <li>Promote public programs</li> <li>Support the volunteer network across the sector</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide advice on City Art Collection purchases, as per the Collection Policy</li> <li>Champion and communicate the Boards support for the development of a powerful presence in the arts in the Shoalhaven, connecting artists, audience and community</li> <li>Be active in the promotion of Shoalhaven Arts grants</li> <li>Act as ambassadors for arts and culture to inform the community and visitors regarding arts and cultural activities, attractions and projects</li> <li>Provide advice and support for Arts based festivals and events</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the progress of the business case in support of the creation of a Foundation</li> </ol>
INDICATORS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognise and advocate for Council's support and investment in arts and culture</li> <li>Successful recommendations by SAB to Council on behalf of the Community</li> <li>Regular attendance at arts and culture events</li> <li>Positive feedback from artists, audience and community</li> <li>Provide moral and written support of grant applications</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The awarding of SAB Grants annually for projects that support the development of a sense of place</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion and attendance at annual events in recognition of the contribution of volunteers</li> <li>Increase in number of Arts Board website page views</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby for improved funding and support to expand the Grants &amp; Awards Program</li> <li>Support the development of the City Art Collection through acquisitions</li> <li>Evaluate acquittals and outcomes from Arts Grants and review arts grants guidelines</li> <li>Evidence of quality arts, festivals &amp; events in the Shoalhaven</li> <li>Effective governance, delivery and management of successful and sustainable arts festivals and events</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued investigation into the establishment of a financially sustainable foundation</li> </ol>

**Useful Links:**

- Shoalhaven Arts Board - Terms of Reference
- Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection Acquisition & Collection Management
- Cultural Gift Program Procedure
- Public Art
- Developing Public Art - Themes and 'Sense of Place'
- Shoalhaven City Arts Centre Strategic Plan 2020
- Lady Denman Reserve - Strategic Business and Master Plan - Public Version

- South Coast Cooperative Libraries Collection Development Policy
- Shoalhaven Libraries Internet Usage Policy
- Shoalhaven Libraries Children's Policy
- Shoalhaven Libraries Operations Policy
- Shoalhaven Libraries Infrastructure Model Report
- South Coast Cooperative Annual Report 2014-2015



**[shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Community/Arts/Shoalhaven-Arts-Board](https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/My-Community/Arts/Shoalhaven-Arts-Board)**

*Disclaimer: Information is up to date at time of production, but does not guarantee the accuracy, reliability or currency of the information.*



## AB18.21 Shoalhaven City Art Collection Valuation Highlights

**HPERM Ref:** D18/186964

**Group:** Finance Corporate & Community Services Group  
**Section:** Recreation Community & Culture

### Purpose / Summary

To provide information to the Arts Board following the recent collection valuation on the highlights and opportunities identified within the Shoalhaven City Art Collection.

### Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive this report for information only and continue to champion the integral role of the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery in providing access and opportunity for community members to high engage with high quality visual arts.

### Options

1. Adopt the Recommendation as printed.

Implications: Information is received.

### Background

In 2017 the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery (SRG) contracted Jane Raffan of ARTiFacts Art Service to undertake a full valuation of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection. Following receipt of the final report in April, the below highlights and information are provided for the Arts Board.

- Shoalhaven City Art Collection includes a total of 754 works with a combined value of over \$1.6m.
- Of the works in the collection, those with the highest values include
  - 'Wedderburn Bush' by Elisabeth Cummings
  - 'Portrait of Fred Nile' by Steve Harris
  - 'Barbara Blackman at Home' by Gorgi Dimcesvski
  - 'Pick up Sticks' by Jasper Knight
  - 'Shoalhaven Stories' by Anna Glynn
  - 'Marine Playground' by Trudi Voorwinden
  - 'Red Butress' by Jim Birkett
- Approx. 33% of the collection is made up of works either by Samuel Elyard or related to the Elyard Archive. The valuer located a publication in the state library collection titled 'Scenery of the Shoalhaven: Facsimiles in Photography of Eighteen Original Drawings' published in 1892. Research related to this publication has entailed a significant adjustment in valuation of several Elyard works in the collection.

- Approximately 10% of the collection is works by Dennis Adams and related to his 'Windjammers' drawings. Several drawings in the SRG collection were the basis for works published in the book *The Four-masted Barque Lawhill (Anatomy of the Ship)* published in 1996.
- The collection of works by Clarrie Payne documenting life in the Royal Australian Airforce Papua New Guinea bases is noted as significant as the Australian War Memorial does not appear to hold similar material from these particular bases in their art collection.
- The previous valuation of a number of Chinese Cultural gifts has been queried and adjusted as the items appear to be readily available online and are modern copies of historic items. It is noted that in previous valuations the identification of commercial value for these items was potentially impacted by diplomacy and the level of cultural value accorded the items.

This valuation report and the findings from it highlights the need identified in the MGNSW standards report of 2017, for the Gallery to do further research into the collection and be able to make collection records available online. The Dennis Adams collection and Clarrie Payne collection hold significance for communities beyond the Shoalhaven, and the works by contemporary Australian Artists are of interest to other regional galleries. Future planning will require the allocation of resources and associated budget against this project to deliver collection research in a strategic and methodical way. As per the 2020 Gallery strategic plan, promotion of substantial individual artists within the collection is a priority.

Publication of the collection online is possible through the Vernon Collection Management System, and we are currently paying a licence for the online cataloguing component of this system with the intention to publish the collection. We have two volunteers who are working with the collection for half a day each week to help get the records suitable for publication, but it will be at least 6-12 months before the records are ready.

### Community Engagement

The Shoalhaven City Art Collection is acquired for the benefit of the Shoalhaven community and currently made accessible through works displayed at the Council Administration Building, the Shoalhaven Entertainment centre and some libraries and aquatic centres. The majority of the collection is housed at the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery and is displayed for exhibitions where appropriate or made available for research enquiries. The information and valuation provided by ARTiFacts will assist in further planning for collection acquisitions, research and loans.

### Policy Implications

The Shoalhaven City Art Collection – Acquisition and Management Policy outlines the key collection areas, criteria for adding works to the collection and procedure for deaccessioning. The report will assist in guiding deaccessioning decisions and support future acquisition decisions.