

## Shoalhaven Arts Board

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, 03 March, 2022

**Location:** Council Chambers, 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. Election of Chairperson

### 2. Apologies

### 3. Confirmation of Minutes

- Shoalhaven Arts Board - 21 October 2021.....1

### 4. Declarations of Interest

### 5. Presentations

AB22.1 City Lifestyles Presentation - Overview of the Shoalhaven Arts Board

AB22.2 Presentation - Governance - Brief Induction

### 6. Reports

AB22.3 Notification of Council Resolution - Shoalhaven Arts Board Re-establishment.....10

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AB22.5 Subcommittee Membership, Working Groups, Portfolios and Panel of Peers .....31

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AB22.7 Public Art - Opportunities and Requirements.....52

AB22.8 Shoalhaven Regional Gallery - Update - November, December, January 2021/2022 .....76

AB22.9 Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Update .....81

AB22.10 Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Acquisitions .....86

AB22.11 Lake Tabourie Museum - Collection Care and Management.....102

### 7. General Business

**Membership**

Clr Tonia Gray  
Clr John Kotlash  
Clr Moo D'Ath  
Clr Patricia White (Alternate)  
Clr Paul Ell (Alternate)  
Mr Stephen Buzacott  
Ms Alison Chiam  
Mr Rob Crow  
Ms Christine Dunstan  
Mr Frank Howarth  
Dr Lynda Kelly  
Dr Peter Lavelle  
Mr Paul McLeod  
Ms Jenny Thompson

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.

## MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN ARTS BOARD

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, 21 October 2021  
**Location:** Teams Meeting (Remotely)  
**Time:** 1.03pm

The following members were present (Remotely):

Clr John Wells - Chairperson  
Clr Patricia White  
Ms Alison Chiam  
Dr Peter Lavelle  
Mr Frank Howarth  
Dr Lynda Kelly  
Mr Stephen Buzacott  
Mr Rob Crow – joined 1.13pm

Also present (Remotely):  
Jane Lewis – Director City Lifestyles  
Bronwyn Coulston – Manager Arts & Culture  
Karen Patterson – Manager Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre  
Sarah Taylor – Manager Shoalhaven Libraries  
Ryan Jameson – Coordinator, Local Planning Team  
Molly Porter – Strategic Planner, Local Planning Team  
Lenka Kripac – OpenField Arts Festival  
Amelia Ramsden – OpenField Arts Festival

### Apologies / Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Jenny Thompson and Christine Dunstan.

### Confirmation of the Minutes

**RESOLVED** (Stephen Buzacott / Alison Chiam)

That the Minutes of the Shoalhaven Arts Board held on Thursday 22 July 2021 be confirmed.

CARRIED

### Declarations of Interest

Nil

## PRESENTATIONS

### **AB21.33 Revitalising Nowra CBD Action Plan**

**HPERM Ref:  
D21/451574**

A presentation of the Revitalising Nowra CBD Action Plan was provided by Ryan Jameson (Coordinator, Local Planning Team) and Molly Porter (Strategic Planner – Local Planning Team) in accordance with the Arts Board's resolution at its meeting on 22 July 2021 (AB21.16). The presentation is attached to these Minutes.

Frank Howarth asked how the CBD revitalisation will link to the riverfront revitalisation project. Molly Porter clarified there are separate masterplans for the two projects, and agreed on the importance of the link. The riverfront area is residential and recreation zoned, as opposed to the CBD's goods and services offering, but they are complementary.

Clr Wells explained the boundaries of the CBD area and advised that Studio GL had been retained to generate concepts for the riverfront area, which includes Graham Lodge and the former Visitor Centre. A State Government Taskforce Planning Control Group involving Transport for NSW and other agencies is working on this.

Ryan Jameson confirmed the focus in the CBD is on the commercial retail centre, a zoned B3 area, and does not extend to mixed use areas.

Frank Howarth raised the risk of creating a "dead zone" between the two areas, giving the example of Townsville and its lost connections.

#### **RESOLVED** (Stephen Buzacott / Frank Howarth)

That the Arts Board receive the presentation of the Revitalising Nowra CBD Action Plan for information.

CARRIED

### **AB21.25 Presentation - OpenField Arts Festival (Berry 2023)**

**HPERM Ref:  
D21/431530**

Lenka Kripac and Amelia Ramsden presented the new OpenField Arts Festival, and a plan of action regarding public sculpture by an Indigenous artist being installed in the town of Berry as a permanent fixture, to be acquired as part of the Shoalhaven City art collection.

This new biennial, multidisciplinary contemporary arts festival for Berry will commence next year. Funding is being sourced through grants and private donors. The organisers are seeking more artists, including Indigenous artists, and have begun speaking with local traditional owners. Berry features much colonial culture but there are no Indigenous public artworks. The proposal is to commission a permanent Indigenous public artwork for the town. An Indigenous curator will be sought. The plan is to approach local and non-local Indigenous artists, then select the top three proposals that will be presented to Council next year along with suggested sites.

Alison Chiam advised the Arts Board have a number of projects in progress, one of them being the establishment of the Arts Foundation which will receive donations from the public and look for different projects in the community. It was suggested that this project could be added to the list for when the Foundation comes onstream.

Frank Howarth recommended approaching Destination Sydney Surrounds South for potential tourism events grants.

Clr Wells added the Arts Board's own grants program and advised them to contact Bronwyn Coulston for information.

The organisers have contacted the Berry Forum and Chamber of Commerce, but appreciate



further suggestions who in the community to contact. Stephen Buzacott is willing to be contacted on behalf of the Berry Garden Club. The Show Society was also suggested.

Amelia and Lenka were thanked for their excellent presentation.

## REPORTS

### AB21.26 Update on Actions - October 2021

HPERM Ref:  
D21/437751

Bronwyn Coulston (Manager Arts & Culture) gave status updates on the Actions in the table.

- AB20.3: Acquisitions and acceptance of donations – the delayed donation has arrived and the valuations and being undertaken.
- AB21.11: Deaccessioning – this is a long-standing work in progress.
- AB21.16: Revitalising Nowra Action Plan – this can now be finalised and removed.
- AB21.20: Strategic Plan for Regional Gallery 2020 – Cllr Wells will propose recommendations for this action under General Business.
- AB21.21: Donations from Therese Sweeney and Stephen Westgarth – contact has been made with these donors, the works accepted and waiting to receive them.
- AB21.22: Grants Program – Council is starting to receive applications,
- AB21.20, action from Council – new gallery development – staff will hold a strategic planning session on 15 November after which a survey will be circulated to community and SAB members.
- AB21.24: Arts Foundation working party – there had been change of the wording of the resolution for procedural reasons for the Ordinary meeting which does not change its intent or purpose.
- Actions from other meetings included for information:
  - MIN21.400: Sussex Inlet Viking Festival – Working group to investigate establishing a museum. First meeting will be next week.
  - MIN21.596: RADO – CreateNSW have now appointed a consultant to undertake three months' research and review, and to set up the basic requirements. Meetings with CreateNSW are ongoing, alongside other consultations, and staff will recommend they make contact with Arts Board members. Staff have communicated to Minister Harwin that the Board supports the RADO.

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

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Update on Actions report for information.

### RESOLVED (Frank Howarth / Peter Lavelle)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Update on Actions report for information.

CARRIED

**AB21.27 Update - Arts Board Grants 2020/21 - Acquittals and variations****HPERM Ref:  
D21/424949**

Bronwyn Coulston provided the updates on last year's grants, some of which have been significantly impacted by COVID.

- Albatross Musical Theatre Company have not been able to do the courses intended as this stage as NIDA are not conducting courses face to face. AMTC are of the view that online courses do not meet their needs or outcomes in the grant document. They seek a variation to enable them to attend a face to face course at NIDA at some point next year, so to extend to the end of 2022.
- Alaska Turner was to have been going to the US next year, and is now hoping to undertake the project in January 2023.
- Jill Talbot intends to acquit by end of June 2022, but had hoped to complete by end of this year. Final exhibition will be in May 2022.
- Natalie McDonagh has had to postpone the presentation of the Yak Woman Oracle project at Huskisson Community Hall late next year. The requested variation is to extend to December 2022.
- Annaliese Szota had started some recording but lockdown prevented its continuance. She is reviewing how it will be launched, and renegotiating with Nowra Players. Variation to extend to the end of 2022.
- Alana Valentine, The Anti-Nuclear Family (COVID Response Grant). Karen Patterson, Manager Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre (SEC), reported that with assistance from Christine Dunstan she had worked with Alana's agent and the commissioning agreement had been executed. The first draft is due on 7 March, 2022 and the second draft in June. The commissioning agreement confirms the SEC as the commissioner, holding the rights to undertake the creative development in July 2022. Cllr Wells advised there will be a report on funding that creative development process to the Arts Board early in the new year as it involves funding for actors as part of that development. Karen noted this will be an additional \$25k based on current budget.

Peter Lavelle suggested it would be logical to contract Christine Dunstan Productions to oversee some of the development. Cllr Wells advised this has been considered, but care needs to be taken around potential conflict of interest. Bronwyn advised there is urgency in resolving to obtain funding to secure the services of a well respected director of national renown who has expressed interest. This must be locked in before the end of this year.

**Recommendation**

That:

1. The acquittals be accepted from
  - a. Anna Nangle
2. Variation requests be accepted from
  - a. Albatross Musical Theatre Company
  - b. Alaska Turner
  - c. Natalie McDonagh
  - d. Annaliese Szota
3. Updates are noted for the grants awarded to
  - a. Jill Talbot
  - b. Alana Valentine

**RECOMMENDATION** (Clr Wells / By consent)

That:

1. The acquittals be accepted from
  - a. Anna Nangle
2. Variation requests be accepted from
  - a. Albatross Musical Theatre Company
  - b. Alaska Turner
  - c. Natalie McDonagh
  - d. Annaliese Szota
3. Updates are noted for the grants awarded to
  - a. Jill Talbot
  - b. Alana Valentine
4. In relation to the grant referred to item 3b above, Council give consideration to the allocation of \$25,000 to enable the creative development of a play called The Anti-Nuclear Family, to be funded by an adjustment to the Quarterly Budget Review process.

CARRIED

**AB21.28 Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Strategic Planning - Formation of Working Party****HPERM Ref:  
D21/424955****Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That members of the Current Art Acquisition and Collection subcommittee form a working party along with invited representatives to undertake development of a strategic plan for the Shoalhaven City Art Collection.

Membership shall be

- a. Chair of the SAB
- b. Manager – Arts and Culture or nominated representative
- c. Shoalhaven Arts Board member - *to be determined and added at the meeting*
- d. Shoalhaven Arts Board member - *to be determined and added at the meeting*
- e. Invited Arts Professional
- f. Invited Arts Professional Aboriginal

**RESOLVED** (Clr White / Stephen Buzacott)

That members of the Current Art Acquisition and Collection subcommittee form a working party along with invited representatives to undertake development of a strategic plan for the Shoalhaven City Art Collection.

Membership shall be determined at the next meeting of the Arts Board, but will comprise:

- a. Chair of the SAB
- b. Manager – Arts and Culture or nominated representative
- c. Shoalhaven Arts Board member
- d. Shoalhaven Arts Board member

- e. Invited Arts Professional
- f. Invited Arts Professional Aboriginal

CARRIED

#### **AB21.29 Planning for Dingle Hughes Bequest Collection**

**HPERM Ref:  
D21/434298**

Bronwyn Coulston reported on investigations into how to support Max Dingle in the management of the collection and to be in position to accept it in future. From early next year it is anticipated that a member of the Arts & Culture team will spend six months working with Max and with Art Gallery of NSW and other specialists in collection management to fully understand the collection. She will work on a recommendation to the second meeting next year of the Arts Board on the items to be acquired, and to achieve a strong organisational understanding of the archive associated with the collection.

\$50,000 had been allocated to the Arts & Culture budget a year ago for research into purposes including storage. It is being proposed (forthcoming Council meeting) to repurpose this money for the engagement of a consultant to develop a business case including an analysis of a multi-arts facility, to include storage space for the Dingle Hughes Bequest among others.

Stephen Buzacott raised the possibility of combining the storage facility with a gallery, if it is large enough. Bronwyn advised the size is yet to be determined. Community museums and other groups who may need storage are being consulted. The facility will offer enhanced potential for service to community organisations in need of that space.

Frank Howarth advised that some degree of public access to a Collection Storage Facility is important

Alison Chiam asked for clarification on the proposed repurposing of the funds, given the Arts Board's previous discussion had suggested putting the \$50,000 towards evaluation of a design & scope for a gallery. Jane Lewis explained there has been discussion about the need for a new gallery – at present it has not been identified as a standalone project or as part of the 10 year long term financial plan. It is anticipated that the requirement for a new gallery or library would form part of broader strategic planning around the Nowra CBD. The funds had originally been intended for storage purposes.

Clr Wells and Clr White described approaches from performance groups who also need a space. Council is investigating; it would be a large space, with the possibility to incorporate the storage space.

Peter Lavelle proposed a pop-up gallery in the facility in space not used by the performance groups, for example as a spillover display space pending a more formal gallery down the track. Stephen agreed this is possible as long as the location is suitable.

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

That the report on Planning for Dingle Hughes Bequest Collection be received for information.

#### **RESOLVED** (Peter Lavelle / Clr White)

That the report on Planning for Dingle Hughes Bequest Collection be received for information.

CARRIED

**AB21.30 Shoalhaven Libraries - Update****HPERM Ref:  
D21/413502**

Sarah Taylor, Libraries, Manager, provided a summary as set out in the report.

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

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Shoalhaven Libraries Update report for information.

**RESOLVED** (Stephen Buzacott / Cllr Wells)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Shoalhaven Libraries Update report for information.

CARRIED

**AB21.31 Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Update****HPERM Ref:  
D21/435079**

Karen Patterson, Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Manager, summarised her report.

She advised that some dance schools are still navigating the Public Health Orders and the vaccinations of young performers, in relation to end of year concerts being able to proceed.

The last production before lockdown had been Albatross Musical Theatre Company's *Alice in Wonderland*. The audience capacities were successfully reduced in accordance with public health orders.

Staff were required to handle around 12,000 to 13,000 tickets during the last three months due to postponements and cancellations. The retention rate of tickets was 80%, a strong result.

The 2022 season will be launched on 9 December.

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

That Shoalhaven Arts Board receives the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre report for information.

**RESOLVED** (Cllr Wells / Alison Chiam)

That Shoalhaven Arts Board receives the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre report for information.

CARRIED

**AB21.32 Shoalhaven Regional Gallery - Update - 3rd Quarter 2021****HPERM Ref:  
D21/428780**

Bronwyn Coulston summarised her report.

The 2020 Archibald Prize Regional Touring Exhibition had been installed during the COVID lockdown, and the Gallery conducted a series of online engagements. Bronwyn commended staff member Kendra Appleton who undertook the video production, and Bridget Macleod kept the social media active. The Art Gallery of NSW agreed to extend the tour, so it is still on show until 6 November.

193 community members signed up for the *Regenerate* art packs.

Grant funding:

- \$5000 was received from the Berry Community Activity Centre to support student bus travel to the gallery.

- Forecourt improvements in progress – installing SAB funded project in the Art Boxes in the next few weeks.
- Streets as Shared Spaces project is anticipated to commence soon, after a COVID delay.

The Gallery has been nominated for four awards across three categories for the IMAGinE Awards – for *Wonder + Dread* and *TERRA within*; *Art Detectives*; and Warwick Keen for achievement by an Indigenous Curator.

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

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Regional Gallery report for information.

### **RESOLVED** (Alison Chiam / Stephen Buzacott)

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Regional Gallery report for information.

CARRIED

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **AB21.34 New Regional Gallery**

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

That Council:

1. Through the forthcoming review and preparation of its new Community Strategic Plan (CSP), articulate its vision for a new Shoalhaven Regional Gallery and include this in the new plan, with this being explored further in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan (DPOP) 2022/23.
2. In articulating its vision for a new Regional Gallery, consult with and seek input from the Shoalhaven Arts Board and include this as an Operational Plan Action in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan (DPOP) 2022/23.

CARRIED

### **Australia Day Awards**

Alison Chiam advised that nominations for the Shoalhaven Australia Day Awards are now open. Arts Board members are encouraged to canvass networks for nominees for Arts Awards – organisational and practitioner.

<https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/Council/Events-Awards/Shoalhaven-Australia-Day-Awards-2022>

### **CreateNSW funding from Minister Harwin's office**

Bronwyn Coulston advised that this relates to the Shoalhaven & Kiama Closed Round in lieu of a RADO. No further information has been provided; it has been awarded but there has apparently been no press release or communication.

Clr Wells expressed his thanks to the staff and members of the Arts Board.

Jane Lewis reiterated her thanks to Clr Wells for his chairmanship, and to the staff and members.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 2.47pm.

Clr John Wells  
CHAIRPERSON



## AB22.3 Notification of Council Resolution - Shoalhaven Arts Board Re-establishment

**HPERM Ref:** D22/78522

**Department:** Business Assurance & Risk

**Approver:** Kevin Voegt, Director - City Performance

### Reason for Report

Advise of Council's resolution in relation to the new members and re-establishment of the Shoalhaven Arts Board.

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

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Notification of Council Resolution – Shoalhaven Arts Board Re-establishment report for information.

### Options

1. As recommended.

Implications: The membership structure as resolved by Council is adopted for the period to 30 September 2022.

2. Propose a different membership arrangement.

Implications: Should the Shoalhaven Arts Board wish to make an alternative recommendation in relation to membership, this would need to be reported to Council for consideration/endorsement.

### Background

Each year, (generally in September) Council reaffirms all its Committees for the next 12 months - Council has the option to: reaffirm its Committees; make any change to the membership, purpose, delegation, quorum, and the number of meetings required for those Committees; or disband Committees.

This report is provided to inform the Group members of the resolution of the Council. Should the Group wish to make any changes to the above, a recommendation to Council will be required to that effect.

Due to the postponement of the Local Government Elections, this meeting was held in January 2022. At the Ordinary meeting on 25 January 2022 Council resolved as follows:

### CL22.32 Shoalhaven Arts Board

**RESOLVED** (Clr Gray / Clr Butler)

MIN22.1

*That Council continue the operation of Shoalhaven Arts Board for the period to September 2022 as outlined below.*

<u>Meetings per year</u> – Four (4) per year	<u>Quorum</u> – Majority of the members – at least half plus one (1) member
<u>Commencement time</u> – 1.00pm	

AB22.3

	<p>Terms of Reference: <a href="#">POL19/45</a> (2123E) Amended: 20 September 2019</p>
<p><b>Purpose:</b></p> <p>a) To contribute to and develop strategy and policy both for the Shoalhaven City Council as well as in alignment with the Region.</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual Arts</li> <li>• Heritage and Museum Sector</li> <li>• Literature</li> <li>• Performing Arts</li> </ul> <p>c) Advocate and maintain specific arts related portfolios.</p> <p>d) Advocate and promote Board recommendations.</p>	
<p><b>Delegations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act within adopted budgets aligning with Council's strategic plans and document, and make recommendations on the arts to Council</li> <li>• Appoint suitable representatives to fill casual vacancies on a set term basis</li> <li>• Inform and recommend policy for arts related funding programs, and where required by Council, vote on related matters</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Establish a Shoalhaven Arts Foundation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To support the development and enrichment of broad arts across the Shoalhaven including visual, heritage, literature &amp; performing arts</li> <li>○ 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</li> <li>○ To fundraise and develop a sustainable principal investment to generate ongoing grant funds</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Relevant staff will work collaboratively with the Shoalhaven Arts Board to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement activities to achieve objectives in line with the Shoalhaven Arts Board recommendations, the Council's policies and corporate plan</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Chairperson – Appointed by the Board</b></p>	
<p><b>2022 Councillor/ Staff Membership</b></p> <p>Councillor Gray (Ward 1)</p> <p>Councillor Kotlash (Ward 2)</p> <p>Councillor D'Ath (Ward 3)</p> <p>Clr White – Alternate</p> <p>Clr Ell – Alternate</p>	
<p><b>Community / Organisational Representatives</b></p> <p>Eight (8) Community representatives (includes one (1) designated Aboriginal Local Member position, nominated by the Aboriginal Advisory Committee)</p> <p>One (1) representative of the Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Group, nominated by the Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Group</p>	

CARRIED

## Policy Implications

There were no amendments to the Terms of Reference by this resolution.

AB22-3

## AB22.12 Update on Actions - March 2022

**HPERM Ref:** D22/82573

**Department:** Business Assurance & Risk  
**Approver:** Jane Lewis, Director - City Lifestyles

**Attachments:** 1. Attachment - Actions Table - March 2022 [↓](#)

### Reason for Report

To provide the Shoalhaven Arts Board with a progress report on outstanding actions.

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

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Update on Actions report for information.

### Options

1. Adopt the recommendation as written.

Implications: The Shoalhaven Arts Board is updated on progress of actions and recommendations made at previous meetings.

2. Request more information.

Implications: Members of the Shoalhaven Arts Board request further information.

### Background

This report is to update the Shoalhaven Arts Board on outstanding actions from previous meetings. Attachment 1 provides information regarding the status of actions and resolutions made at previous meetings, including items which are still in progress, and identifies actions that have been completed.

Should Shoalhaven Arts Board members require further information on the status of the actions in the table attached Council staff will provide as requested.

### Community Engagement

It is important that the members of the Arts Board are kept informed on progress towards the completion of actions and projects. This report provides a structured approach to facilitate this information exchange.

<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> Uncompleted as at "Date" Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
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#### OPEN ACTIONS FROM ARTS BOARD

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 22/04/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.11	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven City Art Collection - recommendations for Deaccessioning select items from Collection			
<b>RESOLVED</b> (Alison Chiam / Christine Dunstan) That the below items from the City Art Collection are deaccessioned in line with the City Art Collection – Acquisitions and Collection Management Policy (POL18/23)		<b>Notes:</b> 04/10/2021 4:22:46 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Deaccessions remain a work in progress. Donors / Estate holders are being identified where possible. 24/02/2022 11:21:07 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Deaccessions continue to progress slowly. Limited information found on donors / estate holders. Next step is to offer works to other community organisations / education orgs.	
1. Phil Campbell – Depression Session – 1980 – pencil, charcoal, crayon on sawboard 2. S Bailey – Four Painted Plates of Houses – 1981 – hand painted ceramic plates 3. Maurie Caswell – Pampas Grass and Urn – 1986 – Watercolour on paper 4. Jelders Michael Davey – Solitude – undated – Type C Photograph ed 1/20 5. Gretel Doering – Dead Trees Dreaming – 1968 – watercolour on paper 6. Alna Nicmanis – Under the Dark Clous – 1975 – mixed media 7. Leslie Kienan – Fruit basket with flowers – 1991 – watercolour on paper 8. Mollie McCloskey – Abstract 8 – 1974 – mixed media 9. Joy Morrison – Enchanted Garden – 1970 – mixed media on masonite 10. Terrance Murphy – MinMin Shore – 2008 – oil on canvas 11. Terrance Murphy – Apline Spring – 2001 – acrylic on craftboard 12. Terrance Murphy – Outer Hedrides – 1991 – acrylic on craftboard			

<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> <b>Uncompleted as at "Date"</b> <b>Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"</b>	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
13. Terrance Murphy – Cosmic Poem – 1997 – acrylic on linen 14. Helen Kaminski – Autumn Gums – 1981 – pencil and pastel on paper 15. J Stewart – Crookhaven Heads Lighthouse – undated – oil on masonite 16. Thora Wilson – Tabby Tom at Molong – 1988 – watercolour on paper 17. Alison Duncan – Golden Goddesses – undated - watercolour on paper 18. Lee Elvy – Untitled – Undated - acrylic on board 19. Gray Dunreath-Cooper – Softly Softly – 1975 – watercolour on paper 20. Grace Paleg – Portrait of Dorothy – 2001 – pastel on paper 21. Greg Hughes – Abstract, Symbolic Economic Code – undated - acrylic and pastel on canvas 22. Lyn Ryall – Bird – undated – ceramic 23. Irene Kitchen – Plate – undated – earthenware CARRIED	

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 22/07/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.21	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Acquire Duhk-ling XII & Duhk-ling I Therese Sweeney - Echo Overload No 4 - David Voight			
<b>RESOLVED</b> (Stephen Buzacott / Alison Chiam) That the Shoalhaven Arts Board: 1. Accept the offer of Donation of the works <i>Duhk-ling XII</i> & <i>Duhk-ling I</i> from Therese Sweeney 2. Reject the offer of Donation of the work <i>Live a little (Ducklings Born)</i> from Therese Sweeney 3. Accept the offer of Donation through the Cultural Gifts program of <i>Echo Overload No 4</i> by David Voight from Stephen Westgarth		<b>Notes:</b> 28/02/2022 - Bronwyn Coulston Items not yet received into collection. Follow up with donors to occur.	

<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> Uncompleted as at "Date" Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
CARRIED	

#### OPEN ACTION FROM ORDINARY

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 31/08/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.20	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven Regional Gallery - Strategic Plan 2020 - Summary of Achievements - 2021 / 25 Plan - New Gallery development			
<b>RESOLVED*</b> (Clr Gartner / Clr Findley) MIN21.609 That: 1. The report on the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery – Strategic Plan 2020 – Summary of Achievements be received by the Shoalhaven Arts Board for information. 2. Arts Board members are consulted and given opportunity to provide feedback as part of the planning and development of the new 2021-2025 Gallery Strategic Plan 3. The Shoalhaven Arts Board continue to champion the work of the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery and the need for ongoing financial support. 4. Council include in the Strategic Plan 2021-2025 the development of a plan for a new regional gallery. CARRIED		<b>Notes:</b> 04/10/2021 4:19:49 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Staff planning for the new strategic plan will occur in November 2021. Following this a survey will be distributed to members of the Shoalhaven Arts Board, representatives of various arts organisations and the broader community for feedback and input. The Draft Strategic Plan will be presented to the Shoalhaven Arts Board in early 2022. 24/02/2022 11:26:22 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Development of a new strategic plan for Shoalhaven Regional Gallery continues. Members will be invited to participate and provide information and feedback at appropriate points in the development process.	
<b>Meeting Date:</b> 31/08/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.24	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven Arts Foundation Proposal - Working Party establishment - New Regional Arts & Cultural Facility (Gallery)			
<b>RESOLVED*</b> (Clr Gartner / Clr Findley) MIN21.610 That Council:		<b>Notes:</b> 24/02/2022 11:32:50 AM - Bronwyn Coulston	

<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> <b>Uncompleted as at "Date"</b> <b>Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"</b>	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note the intention of the Shoalhaven Arts Board to continue to advocate the establishment of the Shoalhaven Arts Foundation and doing so the Board will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urge Council to support funding the legal work necessary to develop a robust and functioning constitution for a Shoalhaven arts foundation.</li> <li>Consider a proposal that a new contemporary art gallery be the first major project to be supported by an arts foundation, once established.</li> <li>Contribute to the development of a "prospectus" for a leading-edge contemporary Art Gallery.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Be attentive to the scope and scale of projects and programs that are able to be supported by the Foundation to achieve cultural benefits for the community.</li> <li>Establish a working party at the appropriate time to progress planning towards the establishment of a new regional arts and cultural facility (art gallery), and the role that the future Foundation will play in the articulation of that facility.</li> </ol> <p>CARRIED</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 (a) - A briefing has been set for the 31st March to present information to council on the Arts Foundation and the need for funding. An operational budget bid has been submitted to seek funding for the establishment costs.</li> <li>1 (b) - intention is noted, but Council will not have ability to direct the focus and funding allocation of the Foundation</li> <li>1 (c) - The Arts Board will continue to be consulted at an appropriate point in time to contribute to the development of a new Regional Gallery</li> <li>2 - The Board will be able to contribute to the aims and objectives of the Foundation through the development of the constitution.</li> <li>3 - The establishment of a working party will be progressed at an appropriate time.</li> </ol>

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 02/11/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.27	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Update - Shoalhaven Arts Board Grants 2020 / 2021 - Acquittals and variations - Anti Nuclear Family Play - Consider funding			
<b>RESOLVED*</b> (Clr Pakes / Clr White) MIN21.812 That: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The acquittals be accepted from <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anna Nangle</li> </ol> </li> <li>Variation requests be accepted from <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Albatross Musical Theatre Company</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<b>Notes:</b> 24/02/2022 11:43:22 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Grant projects continue to progress as per parts 2 & 3. Funding received for part 4, funding has been used as co-contribution for application to Building Better Regions Fund - Community Investment Stream (seeking additional \$25,000) to ensure creative development can happen.		



<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> <b>Uncompleted as at "Date"</b> <b>Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"</b>	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Alaska Turner</li> <li>c. Natalie McDonagh</li> <li>d. Annaliese Szota</li> </ul> <p>3. Updates are noted for the grants awarded to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Jill Talbot</li> <li>b. Alana Valentine</li> </ul> <p>4. In relation to the grant referred to item 3b above, Council give consideration to the allocation of \$25,000 to enable the creative development of a play called the Anti-Nuclear Family, to be funded by an adjustment to the Quarterly Budget Review process.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 02/11/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.34	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Additional Item - New Regional Gallery - Inclusion in Community Strategic Plan - DPOP 2022 / 2023			
<p><b>RESOLVED*</b> (Clr Pakes / Clr White) MIN21.813</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through the forthcoming review and preparation of its new Community Strategic Plan (CSP), articulate its vision for a new Shoalhaven Regional Gallery and include this in the new plan, with this being explored further in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan (DPOP) 2022/23.</li> <li>In articulating its vision for a new Regional Gallery, consult with and seek input from the Shoalhaven Arts Board and include this as an Operational Plan Action in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan (DPOP) 2022/23.</li> </ol> <p>CARRIED</p>	<p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>24/02/2022 11:45:33 AM - Bronwyn Coulston</p> <p>Manager - Arts and Culture is working with Manager - Corporate Performance and Reporting to progress actions and ensure parts 1 &amp; 2 are included in relevant corporate documents.</p>		

<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> <b>Uncompleted as at "Date"</b> <b>Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"</b>	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
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<b>Meeting Date:</b> 23/03/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.7	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b>
<b>Title:</b> Additional Item - Shoalhaven Arts Foundation Constitution - Seed Funding - 2020 / 2021 Budget / Quarterly Budget Review			
<b>RESOLVED*</b> (Clr Wells / Clr White) MIN21.152 That Council consider a funding allocation in the 2020/21 budget or a quarterly budget review of \$150,000 to facilitate the drafting of a Shoalhaven Foundation Constitution that could support the Arts and other objects (such as Economic Development opportunities and Environmental outcomes), its business registration and name, securing charitable status, and obtaining an Australian Business Number to facilitate the Foundation's pursuit of funding for the Arts and other objects in the City of Shoalhaven. CARRIED		<b>Notes:</b> 04/10/2021 4:26:11 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Request considered at Quarter 3 budget review - no funding identified. Request will be reconsidered at Quarter 4 review. 10/10/2021 9:15:03 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Funding for the Arts Foundation included in the 2021/22 Delivery Program and Operational Plan for Council. Item 1.2.01.08 - 'Continue to progress development of the Shoalhaven Arts Foundation', with the reporting measure being 'Funding allocated to facilitate drafting of Shoalhaven Foundation Constitution' 24/02/2022 11:19:30 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Funding for Arts Foundation submitted through the Operational Bid process. A councillor briefing on the Foundation is scheduled to occur on the 31st March 2022. The briefing will address funding needs.	

#### COMPLETED ACTIONS FROM ARTS – SINCE 15 OCTOBER 2021

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 27/02/2020	<b>Item No:</b> AB20.3	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b> 10/12/2021
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Art Acquisition - Donations Acceptance			
<b>RESOLVED</b> (Alison Chiam / Robert Crow) That Shoalhaven Arts Board: 1. Acquire the four (4) works offered for donation through the Cultural Gifts Program from the private collection of Glenn Barkley. 2. Accept the offer of donation of two (2) works by Samuel Elyard from Susan Terry.		<b>Notes:</b> 02/03/2021 3:47:19 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Cultural Gift submissions made for all works except donation from Glenn Barkley. Arts and Culture Manager continuing to follow up with Barkley to receive items and process cultural gift submission. Donations from Sue Terry were received in December 2020 26/04/2021 9:46:43 AM - Bronwyn Coulston	

<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> <b>Uncompleted as at "Date"</b> <b>Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"</b>	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Accept the offer of donation through the Cultural Gift Program of three (3) works by Euan Macleod as displayed in the Jamberoo Mountain Road Exhibition in 2018.</li> <li>4. Accept the offer of donation through the Cultural Gift Program of one (1) work by Paul Ryan as displayed in the Jamberoo Mountain Road Exhibition in 2018.</li> <li>5. Accept the offer of donation through the Cultural Gift Program of twenty-eight (28) works by Peter Sharp as displayed in the Jamberoo Mountain Road Exhibition in 2018.</li> <li>6. Accept the offer of donation through the Cultural Gift Program of one (1) work by Steve Lopes as displayed in the Jamberoo Mountain Road Exhibition in 2018.</li> <li>7. Accept the offer of donation through the Cultural Gift Program of two (2) works by Michelle Cawthorn as displayed in the Jamberoo Mountain Road Exhibition in 2018.</li> <li>8. Accept the offer of donation through the Cultural Gift Program of one (1) work by Robert Malherbe as displayed in the Jamberoo Mountain Road Exhibition in 2018.</li> </ol> <p>CARRIED</p>	<p>All items complete other than donation by Glenn Barkley. Continuing to communicate with Glenn for timing of delivery of works so that the CGP process can begin.</p> <p><i>05/07/2021 3:02:37 PM - Bronwyn Coulston</i></p> <p>Donation by Glenn Barkley / Lisa Havilah now progressing with three (3) items. Items received into collection, valuations being sought.</p> <p><i>10/12/2021 1:48:41 PM - Bronwyn Coulston</i></p> <p>Action completed by: Coulston, Bronwyn All items now received into collection.</p>

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 22/07/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.16	<b>Officer:</b> Clark, Gordon	<b>Completed:</b> 17/02/2022
<b>Title:</b> Update on Actions Received - Invite Presentation - Revitalising Nowra Action Plan			
<b>RESOLVED</b> (Christine Dunstan / Alison Chiam) That the Shoalhaven Arts Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Receive the Update on Actions report for information.</li> <li>2. Include any Actions from the RADO report to Council on the list.</li> <li>3. Receive a presentation on the Revitalising Nowra Action Plan at its next meeting.</li> </ol>		<b>Notes:</b> <i>12/08/2021 4:44:09 PM - Janice Cormie</i> For action – Part 2 Janice Cormie - Part 3 Gordon Clark <i>17/02/2022 10:41:55 AM - Gordon Clark</i> Action completed by: Clark, Gordon Staff provided requested briefing to the Arts Board on 12/10/21	

<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> <b>Uncompleted as at "Date"</b> <b>Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"</b>		<b>Action Sheets Report</b>	
CARRIED			

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 22/07/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.16	<b>Officer:</b> Andriske, Claire	<b>Completed:</b> 16/11/2021
<b>Title:</b> Update on Actions Received - Invite Presentation - Revitalising Nowra Action Plan			
<b>RESOLVED</b> (Christine Dunstan / Alison Chiam) That the Shoalhaven Arts Board: 1. Receive the Update on Actions report for information. 2. Include any Actions from the RADO report to Council on the list. 3. Receive a presentation on the Revitalising Nowra Action Plan at its next meeting. CARRIED		<b>Notes:</b> 12/08/2021 4:45:43 PM - Janice Cormie For action – Part 2 Janice Cormie - Part 3 Gordon Clark 01/10/2021 11:17:59 AM - Janice Cormie Action reassigned to Andriske, Claire by: Cormie, Janice for the reason: Next Arts Board agenda will be compiled after my termination date. 16/11/2021 3:17:57 PM - Claire Andriske RADO was reported to Council 3 August - CL21.172 and included on Action List in October 16/11/2021 4:21:50 PM - Claire Andriske Action completed by: Andriske, Claire reported to October	

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 22/07/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.20	<b>Officer:</b> Andriske, Claire	<b>Completed:</b> 16/11/2021
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven Regional Gallery - Strategic Plan 2020 - Summary of Achievements			
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b> (Alison Chiam / Stephen Buzacott) That: 1. The report on the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery – Strategic Plan 2020 – Summary of Achievements be received for information. 2. Arts Board members are consulted and given opportunity to provide feedback as part of the planning and development of the new 2021-2025 Gallery Strategic Plan		<b>Notes:</b> 12/08/2021 4:48:42 PM - Janice Cormie Include resolution from Ord 31 August 2021 in outstanding actions report for future meetings 01/10/2021 11:18:11 AM - Janice Cormie Action reassigned to Andriske, Claire by: Cormie, Janice for the reason: Next Arts Board agenda will be compiled after my termination date. 16/11/2021 3:35:22 PM - Claire Andriske Reported to Action list in October 2021	

<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> <b>Uncompleted as at "Date"</b> <b>Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"</b>		<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
3. The Shoalhaven Arts Board continue to champion the work of the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery and the need for ongoing financial support.  4. Council include in the Strategic Plan 2021-2025 the development of a plan for a new regional gallery.  CARRIED		16/11/2021 3:35:56 PM - Claire Andriske Action completed by: Andriske, Claire Reported to Action list in October

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 22/07/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.22	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b> 24/02/2022
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven Arts Board Grants Program 2021/22 - Invite Applications - Communications Strategy			
<b>RESOLVED</b> (Peter Lavelle / Stephen Buzacott)  That the Shoalhaven Arts Board Grants Program in 2021/22 be run with two separate streams for applications.  1. Applications under the 'Sense of Place' stream will be able to apply for amounts up to \$10,000 and must have a public outcome as part of the project plan.  2. Applications under the 'Professional Development' stream will be able to apply for amounts up to \$3,000.  3. One 'Sense of place' grant must be awarded with the funding; the remaining funding amount shall be allocated to Professional Development grants / Sense of Place grants based on the ability of the applications to meet the criteria.  4. The cost for developing and rolling out a marketing and communications strategy about the grant program will be taken from the Arts Grants budget.  CARRIED		<b>Notes:</b>  04/10/2021 4:11:25 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Shoalhaven Arts Board Grant program for 2021/22 launched on the 4th October. Information about the grants will be distributed through a range of media channels including, promoted ads on Facebook, digital ads on South Coast Register, media releases etc.  24/02/2022 11:24:31 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Action completed by: Coulston, Bronwyn Grants program advertised as agreed, applications recieved and recommendations for funding to be presented to the Board in March 2022.	

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 22/07/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.23	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b> 24/02/2022
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<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> <b>Uncompleted as at "Date"</b> <b>Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"</b>	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
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<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven Arts Board - report on achievements against Strategic Plan and Actions - mid year 2021	
<b>RESOLVED</b> (Alison Chiam / Christine Dunstan)  That 1. The Report be received for information 2. The Shoalhaven Arts Board continue working to achieve the goals and outcomes of the current strategic plan.  CARRIED	<b>Notes:</b>  24/02/2022 11:25:38 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Action completed by: Coulston, Bronwyn Board progressed all actions over 2021. A new strategic plan will be developed over 2022.

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 21/10/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.28	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b> 24/02/2022
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Strategic Planning - Form Working Party - Determine at Next Meeting			
<b>RESOLVED</b> (Clr White / Stephen Buzacott)  That members of the Current Art Acquisition and Collection subcommittee form a working party along with invited representatives to undertake development of a strategic plan for the Shoalhaven City Art Collection.  Membership shall be determined at the next meeting of the Arts Board, but will comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Chair of the SAB</li> <li>b. Manager – Arts and Culture or nominated representative</li> <li>c. Shoalhaven Arts Board member</li> <li>d. Shoalhaven Arts Board member</li> <li>e. Invited Arts Professional</li> <li>f. Invited Arts Professional Aboriginal</li> </ul> CARRIED		<b>Notes:</b>  24/02/2022 11:38:54 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Action completed by: Coulston, Bronwyn Formation of working party is included in report to the Board in March 22.	



<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> Uncompleted as at "Date" Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
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### COMPLETED ACTIONS FROM ORDINARY – SINCE 15 OCTOBER 2021

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 15/12/2020	<b>Item No:</b> AB20.25	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b> 24/02/2022
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven Arts Board - Strategic Plan - Summary of Achievements - 2021 Actions - 2021 / 2022 Budget bids			
<b>RESOLVED*</b> (Clr Wells / Clr White) MIN20.934 That the Shoalhaven Arts Board 1. Receive this Shoalhaven Arts Board - Strategic Plan - Summary of Achievements and 2021 Actions report for information. 2. Set the Board's actions for 2021 to be: a. Achieve funding commitment to progress the establishment of the Shoalhaven Arts Foundation b. Advocate to Council for continuation of grant funding at 2020/21 Levels (\$60,000) c. Continue to review and consider acquisitions for the City Art Collection to grow a nationally significant and recognised collection. d. Undertake strategic planning for the growth of the City Art Collection, including a review of the existing Art Collection Policy e. Achieve funding required for the development of a 10-year cultural strategy f. Undertake advocacy and seek commitment for, including site identification of a new Regional Gallery. 3. The Shoalhaven Arts Board seek Council support for the following budget bids in the 2021/22 Financial Year: a. Shoalhaven Arts Foundation establishment - \$150,000 b. Increased Arts Grants program - \$30,000 c. Cultural Strategy development - \$100,000		<b>Notes:</b> 05/07/2021 3:04:50 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Report on achievements of Board against actions and strategic plan to go to meeting on 22nd July 2021 24/02/2022 11:08:12 AM - Bronwyn Coulston 2021 closed off. 2 (a) - Funding for Arts Foundation continues to be pursued as per DPOP actions 2 (b) - Increased grant funding not achieved in 2021/22 FY 2 (c) - Acquisitions continued to be recommended as per policy. 2 (d) - Collection strategic planning working group will be established as per report March 2022 2 (e) - grant application submitted with matching funding from SCC for the development of a Creative Economy Strategy 2 (f) - Arts Board have achieved Council commitment to further considerations for a new Regional Gallery through the DPOP process in 2022/23 3 - Budget bids were not supported in the 21/22 FY. 24/02/2022 11:16:23 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Action completed by: Coulston, Bronwyn All actions were progressed in the 2021 Calendar year. A new strategic plan will be developed over the 2022 calendar year.	



<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> <b>Uncompleted as at "Date"</b> <b>Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"</b>		<b>Action Sheets Report</b>	
CARRIED			

<b>Meeting Date:</b> 24/03/2020	<b>Item No:</b> AB20.4	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b> 10/12/2021
<b>Title:</b> Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Storage Needs for Continued Growth - New Gallery / Library study - Funds voted - Business case report requested			
<b>RESOLVED*</b> (Clr Wells / Clr Guile) MIN20.221 That Council:		<b>Notes:</b>	
1. Supports the capital budget bid for \$60,000 to solve immediate storage needs through the expansion of the existing art store and purchase of new racking at the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery.		02/03/2021 3:49:11 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Extension of Art Gallery store completed. RFQ for feasibility study on new gallery / library / store being written.	
2. Provides funding of \$50,000 to undertake a formal study into options for a new Art Gallery, and Library with suitable storage facilities that can house the Shoalhaven City Art Collection, Shoalhaven City Records storage, and provide some storage needs for local community museums.		26/04/2021 9:48:34 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Items 1 & 4 now complete. Deaccession report provided to Arts Board April 2021 meeting. Staff will now undertake deaccessioning as per report.	
3. Receive a report with a business case and indicative costs for following the undertaking of a formal study on the storage needs of the S.C.A.C.		07/07/2021 11:31:58 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Items 2 & 3 - Whilst there have been discussions regarding the need for a new gallery to meet the needs of the City into the future this is not identified as a stand-alone project in the current adopted 10-year long term financial / capital plan. It is anticipated that the requirement for a new gallery and library may form part of any broader strategic planning that could be undertaken to guide and inform future development of the Nowra CBD. The money allocated for this action will be used for investigations and preparatory work for a storage facility suitable for housing the growing City Art Collection including the Birkett Weatherhead Gift and the Dingle Hughes Collection	
4. Note that the Shoalhaven Arts Board will receive a report outlining potential deaccessioning whilst the gallery is closed for the installation of the climate control system.		10/10/2021 9:12:44 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Report to Arts Board meeting 21st October 2021 outlines the plans for the allocated funding and management of Arts storage for the future.	
CARRIED		10/12/2021 1:50:05 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Action completed by: Coulston, Bronwyn Item has been moved to SA21.220 - funds reallocation for business case and planning for multi-arts facility which includes suitable storage for collection.	

Ordinary Meeting  
Uncompleted as at "Date"  
Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"

Action Sheets Report

Meeting Date: 29/06/2021	Item No: AB21.10	Officer: Coulston, Bronwyn	Completed: 24/02/2022
Title: Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Acquisitions			
RESOLVED (Clr Gartner / Clr Wells) MIN21.412		Notes:	
That Council endorse the request of the Shoalhaven Arts Board to acquire the following works for inclusion in the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection:		26/08/2021 9:55:51 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Works have been purchased as directed. Cultural Gifts process is underway to accept donation of works.	
1. Purchase <i>Requiem for a Forest 1</i> – channel film by Tim Georgeson offered at \$8,000 utilising funding from the Arts Reserve and acquire one (1) further photographic work one (1) which is being offered under Cultural Gift Program:		04/10/2021 4:14:18 PM - Bronwyn Coulston Cultural Gift applications for items 1a and 2a,b,c,d & e will be submitted in week of 4th October 2021.	
a. Renaissance		24/02/2022 11:23:18 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Action completed by: Coulston, Bronwyn All works have been purchased and received by the Gallery	
2. Purchase <i>Endangered 11A &amp; 11B (Diptych)</i> by Tamara Dean offered at \$23,000 utilising funding from the Arts Reserve and acquire five (5) further works which are being offered under the Cultural Gift Program:			
a. Dusty Miller			
b. Sacred Lotus			
c. Juniper			
d. Endangered 4			
e. Endangered 6			
3. Approve the allocation of \$31,000 from The Arts Reserve to fund the purchase of these two (2) works:			
a. <i>Requiem for a Forest 1</i> - \$8,000			
b. <i>Endangered 11A &amp; 11B (Diptych)</i> - \$23,000			
4. Pursue the acquisition of the other offered works in accordance with the Cultural Gift Program.			
CARRIED			

<b>Ordinary Meeting</b> Uncompleted as at "Date" Completed: "Date From" to "Date to"	<b>Action Sheets Report</b>
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<b>Meeting Date:</b> 23/03/2021	<b>Item No:</b> AB21.2	<b>Officer:</b> Coulston, Bronwyn	<b>Completed:</b> 24/02/2022
<b>Title:</b> 2020 / 2021 Arts Board Grants program - Recipients - Unallocated COVID Grant - Arts Reserve			
<b>RESOLVED*</b> (Clr Wells / Clr White) MIN21.151 That: 1. The Shoalhaven Arts Board grants be allocated as follows: a. Professional Development Grants i. Anna Nangle - \$2,210 ii. Albatross Musical Theatre Company - \$2,710 iii. Alaska Turner - \$3,000 iv. Jill Talbot - \$3,000 v. Natalie McDonagh - \$2,150 b. Sense of Place Grants i. Annaliese Szota - \$8,450 c. COVID Response Performing Arts Grants i. Alana Valentine - \$15,900 2. That the \$9,100 unallocated from the COVID Response Performing Arts Grants is moved to the Arts Reserve. Subject to endorsement of the Shoalhaven Arts Board the funds be released as appropriate to support the development and delivery of a public 'work in progress' The Anti-Nuclear Family performance or public reading. 3. That the \$10,000 unallocated from the grants program be split equally between supporting the Shoalhaven Family Festival (Arty Farty Party) and the Schools Artist in Residence Program. CARRIED		<b>Notes:</b> 04/10/2021 4:30:36 PM - Bronwyn Coulston All money disbursed. Artists are undertaking activities as noted in grant applications. 04/10/2021 4:31:00 PM - Bronwyn Coulston update on grants, including acquittals and variations included in October Arts Board business paper. 24/02/2022 11:18:17 AM - Bronwyn Coulston Action completed by: Coulston, Bronwyn Progress update on all grants noted in D21/475510.	

## AB22.4 Shoalhaven Libraries - Update

**HPERM Ref:** D22/60550

**Department:** Library Services

**Approver:** Jane Lewis, Director - City Lifestyles

### Reason for Report

To update the Shoalhaven Arts Board on activities and services at Shoalhaven Libraries.

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

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Shoalhaven Libraries Update report for information.

### Options

1. Receive the report for information.

Implications: The Shoalhaven Arts Board will be informed and updated on activities at Shoalhaven Libraries.

2. Request more information.

Implications: Unknown.

### Background

The second quarter of 2021-2022 financial year (October, November, December) saw over 43,000 people come through the doors at Shoalhaven Libraries and borrow nearly 78,000 items. We welcomed over 340 new members and answered nearly 6,660 technology, reference, local heritage, and general queries. The Digital Library also loaned 10,328 eBooks, 12,581 eAudiobooks and 3,137 eMagazines.

COVID has continued to impact library services and from 14 August until 10 October 2021 we were closed to the public due to stay-at-home orders for all of New South Wales. While closed we continued to provide as many services as possible to our community. The Home Library Service continued, and the Doorstep Library Service was reintroduced to deliver books and library items to those who were unable to access the digital library. We also introduced a new Click, Call & Collect service. This allowed customers to select items from our catalogue, reserve the item from the app or website and then visit the library to collect.

Initially our branches opened with reduced opening hours to allow staff to follow the NSW Health Guidelines ensuring customer and staff safety, as well as allowing us to continue to service those customers who were still unable to visit the library. In line with the Public Health Order masks were mandatory for everyone 12 years and over, without proof of an exemption, mandatory QR Code Check-in was in place and proof of vaccination status was required to be presented to staff. There were also social distancing rules in place and increased cleaning requirements.

On Monday 29th November Shoalhaven Libraries was able to extend opening hours some more and from 15<sup>th</sup> December we returned to normal operating hours for all library branches. It has been an extended period of change and uncertainty; however, staff have been agile

and responsive throughout, and we are hopeful that we will be able to continue at normal operating hours moving forward.

**Focus Weeks / Months:**

Despite the shutdown and reduced hours during this period, we celebrated:

- Dyslexia Awareness Month,
- Get Online Week,
- Children's Week,
- Scam Awareness Week and
- Computer Science Education Week.

We also continued to offer other online events and as part of *Get Online Week* we shared a presentation by an NBN Australia Community Ambassador who discussed how smart devices are changing the way we do things and provided some awareness of current scams to help people remain safe online. We also ran a competition that customers could enter by completing a quiz about online safety and provided some great technology prizes, which were funded by a Get Connected grant. And as part of Scams Awareness Week, which ran from 8-12 November, we shared a webinar from Legal Aid NSW about how to spot scams and what to do if you get scammed.

*Children's Week* is a national event that celebrates the right of children to enjoy childhood. It is celebrated from 23 - 31 October 2021 and this year's theme was - Children have the right to choose their own friends and safely connect with others. We promoted the week and the huge range of resources for children; from picture books to short stories and non-fiction books that we hold.

**Author Talks:**

Whilst we were shut down and then operating at reduced hours with increased restrictions we have provided as many services to the community as possible. We have been continuing to offer online author talks which are supported by the NSW Public Libraries Association. The authors that held talks during this period were: Judy Nunn, who is one of Australia's leading fiction writers discussing her new novel 'Showtime'; Costa discussing his gardening and sustainability knowledge brought together in his new book 'Costa's World'; Michael Connelly talking about his new book 'The Dark Hours'; and finally, Fiona McIntosh discussing her new historical adventure 'The Spy's Wife'.

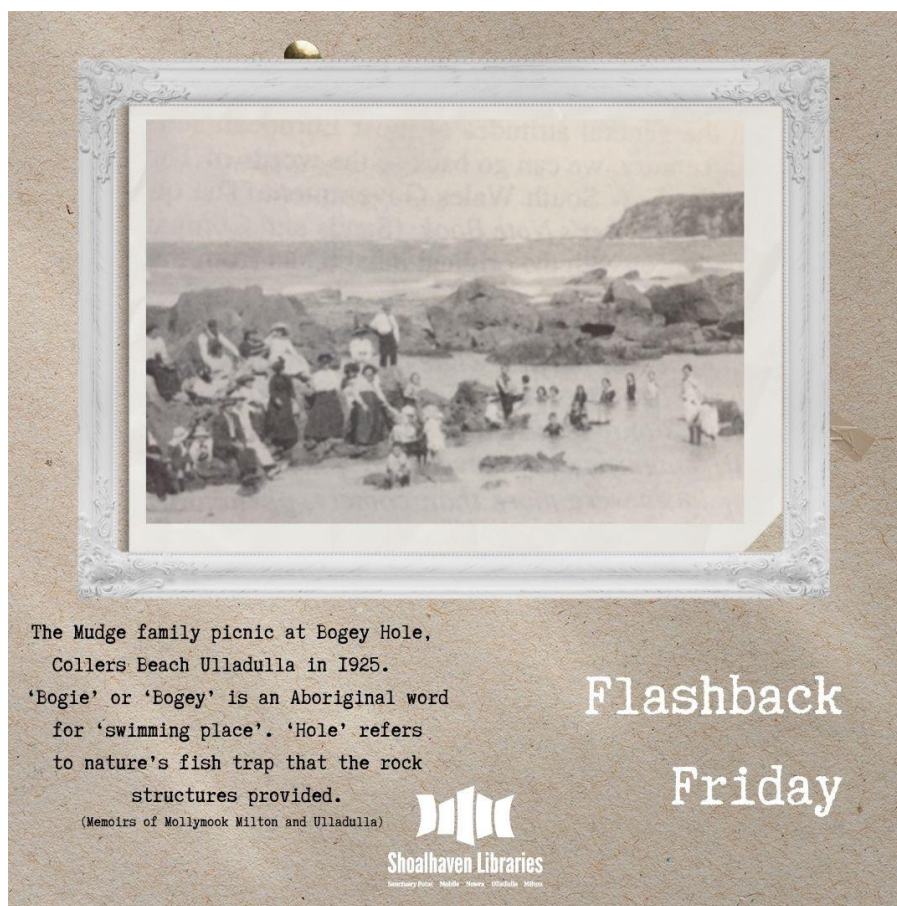
**On Line Assistance:**

Libraries continue to provide a lot of digital assistance, and this has been highlighted as an even more important service by the recent COVID epidemic. We offered regular free tech help sessions and also a class to help customers access and store proof of vaccination on their device.

**Local Heritage:**

The Local Heritage Collection is a unique part of our library service, and we love promoting the resources and services that we provide. Our weekly Facebook Flashback Friday posts highlight our local heritage and recent topics have been: the History of the Cape St George Lighthouse at Point Perpendicular; Henry Kendall, Yatte Yattah born Australian poet; the history of Bomaderry; Bowen Island; the South Coast Red Cross Soldiers' Convalescent Home in Bomaderry; Sister Kitty Porter from Milton; Broughton Mill Creek in Berry and Fairy Glen.





AB22.4

We have recently commenced a partnership with the Shoalhaven Family History Society Inc. and their volunteers are available to assist with enquiries once a week from the Nowra Library Local Heritage Room. We are also pleased to announce Shoalhaven Libraries is now an Affiliate Library of FamilySearch, a free genealogical online resource. Their collection contains over 5.7 billion digital images, digitised church and government archives, books, and user-generated content, which is accessible through their website. The FamilySearch Wiki also offers a vast range of knowledge articles to assist when researching their family tree across the globe. Alongside the library subscriptions to Ancestry, Find My Past, and the British Newspaper Archive, there is so much for new and experienced family historians to explore at Shoalhaven Libraries.

### **Other Public Programs:**

We also continued to run online Storytime sessions, which were posted to our website and social media for all to enjoy. In addition to these sessions all Shoalhaven Libraries members have free access to our digital resource Story Box Library, which has engaging online stories read aloud by favourite storytellers.

In December we were excited to welcome back events into our libraries with our Christmas Storytimes. We held fun and interactive sessions featuring stories, rhymes, songs, and simple crafts at our three main branches, and of course Santa paid a visit to say hello.

For Christmas and the summer holidays we asked our customers to design a bookmark with the theme *Go Wild at the Library This Summer*. The winning bookmarks will be printed as a collectible set and the creators will also receive an awesome book prize pack. We will pick 6 designs for our junior and youth category and 2 designs from our adult category.



AB22.4

### ***New Sanctuary Point Library:***

The new Sanctuary Point Library is progressing well, and a Development Application (DA) has been submitted, which is a fantastic milestone achieved. While the DA is being assessed Council staff and architects are progressing other aspects of the project and Council has submitted a grant application under the Building Better Regions Fund - Round 6 for \$8.5 million grant funding to assist with the construction of this important community asset.

The Public Art component of this project is also advancing, and Council has appointed an art consultancy firm to lead the project. An Expression of Interest for Indigenous public art curators to lead the project was undertaken, however unfortunately no suitable submissions were received, so Council contacted consultancy companies that had the skills to work on a project of this scale and the experience of successfully liaising with local and indigenous communities to submit applications. Council received three very competitive submissions, which were assessed, and SODA Arts was selected as the successful candidate. Project scoping and community consultation has started, and SODA Arts is working with a First Nations Cultural Consultant and key local Indigenous community members. It is very much Council's wish to engage experienced and skilled consultants who can work with local communities in order to provide opportunities to local artists and ensure connections are made. Council also sees this as an opportunity to upskill local artists so that they gain experience working on large scale project such as this and can then use these skills in future endeavours.

### ***Shoalhaven Libraries Strategic Plan:***

Staff are busy working on the new Shoalhaven Libraries Strategic Plan. The current plan was completed last year, and we are currently carrying out SWOT analysis and feedback sessions with staff to help inform the plan. Information resulting from these sessions will be used in conjunction with customer survey responses, professional public library research, benchmarking, statistics and industry trends to form the new plan. And finally, we are also concluding tender documentation for a new and improved mobile library.



## AB22.5 Subcommittee Membership, Working Groups, Portfolios and Panel of Peers

**HPERM Ref:** D22/62258

**Department:** Arts & Culture

**Approver:** Jane Lewis, Director - City Lifestyles

**Attachments:** 1. Shoalhaven Arts Board Terms of Reference [↓](#)  
2. Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Acquisition and Management Policy [↓](#)

### Reason for Report

To establish subcommittees, working groups and portfolios and appoint members of the Shoalhaven Arts Board to these as per the Shoalhaven Arts Board Terms of Reference.

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

That the following subcommittees and working groups be established with the membership as detailed [names to be filled in at meeting]

1. Art Acquisition and Collection Subcommittee
  - a. Chair of the SAB
  - b. Manager – Arts and Culture or nominated representative
  - c. Shoalhaven Arts Board member [name to be filled in at meeting]
  - d. Shoalhaven Arts Board member [name to be filled in at meeting]
  - e. Invited Arts Professional
2. Arts Board Grants Working Group
  - a. Shoalhaven Arts Board member [name to be filled in at meeting]
  - b. Shoalhaven Arts Board member [name to be filled in at meeting]
  - c. Shoalhaven Arts Board member [name to be filled in at meeting]
  - d. Appropriate Council officer from the Cultural sector
3. Art Collection Strategic Planning Working Group
  - a. Chair of the SAB
  - b. Manager – Arts and Culture or nominated representative
  - c. Shoalhaven Arts Board member [name to be filled in at meeting]
  - d. Shoalhaven Arts Board member [name to be filled in at meeting]
  - e. Invited Arts Professional
  - f. Invited Arts Professional Aboriginal

## Options

1. Adopt the Recommendation as printed

Implications: The Shoalhaven Arts Board will operate as per the Terms of Reference, providing strategic and policy advice to Council and achieving the aims of their strategic plan.

2. Amend the Recommendation

Implications: unknown at this time

3. Reject the Recommendation

Implications: The Shoalhaven Arts Board will not be able to operate within the Terms of Reference and will be limited in their ability to provide direction and advice to Shoalhaven City Council.

## Background

In accordance with clause 3.7 of the Terms of Reference, the Shoalhaven Arts Board has the authority to establish sub committees and working groups as deemed appropriate to assist in fulfilling their role and purpose. The Terms of Reference also recommend members of the Board maintain and report on a specific portfolio (clause 1).

There are two current and active subcommittees / working groups, and one to be formed based on an adopted resolution of the Board in 2021. For the continuity of business, it is beneficial to appoint members to these and allow the work of the board, as outlined in the Terms of Reference to continue. These groups are:

1. Art Acquisition and Collection Subcommittee

This subcommittee is responsible for making recommendation on acquisitions and deaccessions as per the Shoalhaven City Art Collection – Acquisition and Collection Management Policy (POL18/23). Members should have a good knowledge of contemporary art and artists and understand the collecting themes and strengths of the current Shoalhaven City Art Collection.

The invited Arts Professional to this committee has been Deb Ely OAM for many years. Following her retirement as CEO of Bundanon Trust, it is important that the Arts Board seek a suitable Arts Professional to be part of this Subcommittee and provide independent expert advice on acquisitions. The Arts and Culture Manager has approached the new Curatorial team at Bundanon Trust and Boe-Lin Bastian has been recommended to fill the vacancy. Boe-Lin has considerable experience in the visual arts and working with Local Government.

2. Arts Board Grants Working Group

This working group is responsible for making recommendations to the Board on the structure of the grants program, and then, on the grants to be awarded following the applications being received. The budget allocated to the Grants Program and the administration of the program is managed operationally and is not within the remit of the Working Group.

3. Art Collection Strategic Planning Working Group

As per AB21.28, this Working Group will develop a strategic plan for the continued improvement and growth of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection in response to the Significance Assessment of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection.

In developing the collection strategic plan, the Group may make recommendations for changes to the Shoalhaven City Art Collection – Acquisitions and Collection Management Policy (POL18/23) which is due to be reviewed by September 2022.

Any changes recommended will be for the purpose of ensuring the Policy and the Strategic Plan work together in clear alignment to provide clarity in direction for the collection to allow for continued growth in its significance, value and reputation.

At its meeting on the 21st of October 2021, the Arts Board agreed that this Group should be comprised of members of the Acquisition Subcommittee and invited representatives who have a good knowledge of collections, either by being an artist represented in the collection, or having professional experience of collections in the cultural sector.

Other working groups can be formed by the Shoalhaven Arts Board at any time, if it is felt that strategic aims would be better achieved by having a small group of board members and expert peers meeting through a working party. Previous working parties have included

- Arts Foundation Working Party

This working party met regularly to progress the strategic aim for the formation of a Shoalhaven Arts Foundation. The working party was able to draft a proposed constitution and have dissolved while avenues to fund the legal advice needed are found.

- Cultural Strategy Working party

This working party started in late 2019 and early 2020. The opportunities to progress their aims were disrupted by COVID related public health measures, but the work they did was recently used by the Manager – Arts and Culture in putting together a grant application for funding to develop a Creative Economy Strategy for the Shoalhaven.

Future working parties may be established for guidance on a new regional gallery and furthering work on the establishment of the Arts Foundation (SAB Minute under delegation MIN21.610 - August 2021). Further, Council adopted MIN21.813 (November 2021) to include in the new Community Strategic plan a commitment from Council to articulate its vision for a new Shoalhaven Regional Gallery being explored further in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan (DPOP) for 2022/23, alongside consulting and seeking input from the Shoalhaven Arts Board.

The Shoalhaven Arts Board strategic plan is due for renewal in 2022, and working groups, subcommittees and member portfolios may be formed to workshop the new strategic plan and / deliver actions and outcomes identified within the strategic plan.

## Community Engagement

The Shoalhaven Arts Board can call on a panel of peers to support their work and provide specific industry knowledge and experience. In forming subcommittees and working groups, it is recommended that the Arts Board utilise community members to increase the knowledge and skill sets of specific groups and consequently provide a greater opportunity for community representation and engagement.

A confidential list of community members suitable to be included on the Panel of Peers and called on to engage with the Arts Board on specific matters will be circulated at the meeting.

## Policy Implications

The establishment and purpose of Subcommittees and working groups by the Shoalhaven Arts Board are managed within the Terms of Reference.

## Financial Implications

All Subcommittees, working groups and portfolios operate within the budgets allocated for activities undertaken by the Shoalhaven Arts Board.



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Website: [www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](http://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

For more information contact the Finance Corporate & Community Services Group

## Shoalhaven Arts Board - Terms of Reference

**Policy Number:** POL19/45 • **Adopted:** 17/03/2015 • **Amended:** 23/06/2015, 27/06/2017, 20/09/2019 • **Minute Number:** MIN15.147, MIN15.426, MIN17.565, MIN19.654 • **File:** 2123E • **Produced By:** Finance Corporate & Community Services Group • **Review Date:** 1/12/2020

### 1. STATEMENT

Council recognises the value and place of creative expression, cultural facilities, innovative arts activities and embraces a strategic direction to facilitate progressive cultural development across the City. To guide this development each Board member will be responsible for maintaining and reporting on a specific portfolio.

### 2. 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.

### 3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### 3.1. RELATIONSHIP TO COUNCIL

The Shoalhaven Arts Board is a Section 355/377 Committee of Council (Local Government Act 1993). It is a strategic advisory committee to advocate for and inform Council's decision making process.

#### 3.2. DELEGATED AUTHORITIES

- 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

*Shoalhaven Arts Board – Terms of Reference*

- 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

### 3.3. MEMBERSHIP

- The membership of the Shoalhaven Arts Board to be twelve (12) members in total and to include:
  - Seven (7) community member representatives from Health & Well-being, Education, Arts Institutions, Artists and Corporate/Business with a range of strategic capabilities, expertise and advice from within the arts;
  - A maximum of three (3) skills based Councillors (one from each of the three (3) wards);
  - One (1) designated Aboriginal Local Member. A nomination for this position will be made by the Aboriginal Advisory Committee when the position comes vacant or the member term expires. The nominee need not be a member of that committee;
  - One (1) representative from the Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Group (STAG). A nomination for this position will be made by STAG when the position comes vacant or the member term expires.
- Community member representatives of the Board are appointed through an Expression of Interest process with the exclusion of casual vacancies should they arise.

### 3.4. ELECTION/APPOINTMENT

#### Industry Representatives

- Appointment to the Board can be for a maximum four (4) years with a set commencement and finish date
- Vacancies will be advertised locally via media, Council communication channels and industry networks
- Applications will be actively sought from appropriately skilled industry representatives,
- Council will manage the application process,
- An interview panel will consist of a Council staff member, the Chairperson of the Board and one (1) suitably qualified independent representative to assess the applications and make recommendations for appointments to the Board and Council.

*Shoalhaven Arts Board – Terms of Reference*Councillors

Council will advise Shoalhaven Arts Board of its appointed representatives. Council at its discretion can replace representatives at a time of its choosing.

**3.5. CASUAL VACANCIES**

Should there be a casual vacancy; the Shoalhaven Arts Board will seek applications by appropriate means to fill these vacancies to align with finish dates.

**3.6. TERM OF APPOINTMENT**

- Appointments will be for a term of two (2) years
- If representative is terminated or resigns an early substitute will be appointed only until the fixed finish date as a casual vacancy

**3.7. SUB COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS/PORTFOLIOS**

The Board will have the right to establish sub groups as deemed appropriate to assist in fulfilling their role and purpose.

**3.8. BOARD MEETING PRACTICE AND PROCEDURES**

- The administrative provisions of Council's adopted Code of Meeting Practice shall apply subject to any amendments by the Terms of Reference.
- Formal Board Meetings will be held quarterly in a form and format as determined by Shoalhaven Arts Board
- To hold Arts/museum/culture industry forums for feedback and ideas that might inform the Annual strategic plan will be held
- Agenda and minutes from previous meetings will be circulated to members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting
- Members must declare in writing any interest in any report tabled at the meeting covered by the Code of Conduct and Pecuniary Interest
- Informal Board meetings, special meetings will be held as and when required or set by the Board
- Planning and costs associated with conducting meetings will be borne by Council and funded from a line item in the Arts & Culture budget.
- The Chairperson will be appointed by the Board, the position will be limited to a two (2) year term and is open to all members of the Board.
- The Quorum will consist of at least half plus one (1) of the members.
- Voting and Recommendations are made by consensus and all decisions must be stated precisely for the inclusion of the minutes
- Where a consensus cannot be reached at two (2) consecutive meetings, then the majority of 60% of those present can adopt a recommendation
- Alternative views are to be minuted
- The Board shall ensure that an agreed written record of each of their meetings is forwarded to Council.

**3.9. CODE OF CONDUCT**

- All members of the Board are to abide by Council's Code of Conduct.

*Shoalhaven Arts Board – Terms of Reference*

- Board members should act in a professional and responsible manner with the information they obtain as a member, as the Board requires openness and honesty to function well.
- Board members should feel free to express their opinions and views without fear of recrimination
- It is essential for Board members to accept collective responsibility, remain loyal to decisions of the Board, even where they may not have agreed with the final decision.

**3.10. CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY**

Members may have contact with confidential or personal information retained by Council. If so, members are required to maintain the security of any confidential or personal information and not access, use or remove any information, unless the member is authorised to do so.

**3.11. COMMUNICATION**

- All issues must be clearly communicated including priorities, limitation and benefits to the community
- Members of the Board are not permitted to speak to the media as Committee of Council representatives of the Board unless approved by the Chairperson
- Where approval has been given by the Chairperson, views and opinions expressed are those of the Board and not of Shoalhaven City Council
- Where endorsement is required from Shoalhaven City Council, approval must be sought through the formal processes
- The Chair of the Board is the point of contact for communication between Board members and Council staff.

**3.12. PARENT ADVISORY GROUP**

Ordinary Council

**3.13. STAFF ATTENDANCE**

Executive staff are normally required to attend the meetings of the Board. Other staff at the Directors' discretion or at the Board's request can attend meetings as required. Staff have no voting privileges.

**3.14. EXPECTATIONS OF BOARD MEMBERS**

- Board members will undertake the prescribed Induction process
- Pecuniary Interest Returns are required on appointment and annually as required by the Office of Local Government and Council

**3.15. RESPONSIBILITY OF COUNCIL**

Council will provide secretarial support to arrange meetings and take minutes and provide professional officer support where required.

Council at its discretion may review and change the Terms of Reference, Role and Structure of the Board.



*Shoalhaven Arts Board – Terms of Reference***4. IMPLEMENTATION**

The Finance Corporate and Community Services Group of Council is allocated responsibility for the administration of the policy.

**5. REVIEW**

To be reviewed within one (1) year of the election of a new Council, or earlier at the discretion of Council.



## Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection - Acquisition and Collection Management

*Policy Number: POL18/23*

*Adopted: 12/05/2009*

*Amended: 21/05/2013, 18/02/2014, 27/06/2017, 15/05/2018*

*Minute Number: MIN09.612, MIN13.522, MIN14.121, MIN17.586, MIN18.351*

*File: 18106E*

*Produced By: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group*

*Review Date: 1/12/2020*

AB22.5 - Attachment 2

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## **1. PURPOSE**

The aim of this Policy is to establish administrative guidelines for a purposeful, consistent approach to acquisition of works and management of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection.

## **2. STATEMENT**

The title shall be the “Shoalhaven City Art Collection – Acquisition and Collection Management Policy” and will be owned and managed by Shoalhaven City Council.

The Shoalhaven City Art Collection has been established to:

- Collect contemporary and historical works of visual art of demonstrable excellence by artists of significance with an emphasis on Australian artists and artists who have a connection to the Shoalhaven.
- Enrich, educate and inform the community of Shoalhaven City and its visitors in quality visual arts practice in Australia,
- Stimulate awareness and appreciation of the visual arts
- Strengthen an historical, social and locally relevant visual arts resource
- Establish a valuable collection of Regional significance and National interest

### **2.1. Scope**

The Policy for acquiring art is to further develop the present strengths of the Collection, especially by seeking works that are of local, national and international significance. All artworks selected, acquired or commissioned by Council will contribute towards the development of a unique and distinctive collection and will give priority to acquiring works of art that satisfy one or more of the following scoping statements:

- 2.1.1. Relate to the Shoalhaven region, by Australian artists, particularly those who have a proven record of practice and development of their art form and who are represented in public collections or who have received recognition through awards and prizes
- 2.1.2. Build upon strengths and fill gaps in the current holdings of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection, as well as develop the representation of artists already held, in order to create a comprehensive, though specifically oriented, collection.
- 2.1.3. Artworks by local Indigenous artists, particularly those who have proven development and commitment to their art form or represent a significant group or time
- 2.1.4. To consider exceptions where the works are significant and relate to the current policy

### **2.2. Background**

The Art Collection of Shoalhaven City Council has been gradually acquired over many years . The Shoalhaven Arts Board, after its inauguration in 1998, created Guidelines and a single Policy to inform acquisition. With the establishment of the Shoalhaven City Arts Centre in 2004, the Policy was amended to recognise the significant loans and donations added to the organisations collection.

*Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection - Acquisition and Collection Management*

In early 2008, Shoalhaven City Council's Art Collection was divided into two (2) separate Collections to distinguish between a primary Collection with works of significance titled "The Shoalhaven Regional Gallery Collection" and a secondary Collection with works of significance titled "The City Collection" which included gifts to the City of lesser artistic, historic or monetary value (as identified at the time of the audit).

Collecting activities are often cost prohibitive, however, the Collection does not seek to cover a complete range of art. Following an audit of both Collections conducted by external art consultants in 2012/13, the objective to define the focus of the Collection has led to the merger of both Collections and determined six (6) primary collecting areas:

1. Australian Landscape
2. War and Peacekeeping
3. Australian Contemporary
4. Indigenous
5. Secular and Religious
6. Ceramics

### **3. PROVISIONS**

#### **3.1. General**

- 3.1.1. The Collection is managed by Council's Arts Manager.
- 3.1.2. Council will contribute an annual budget allocation for adequate maintenance and acquisition of new works in the Shoalhaven City Art Collection. Unexpended annual funding will be accumulated in a suspense reserve to form a growing resource.
- 3.1.3. All works shall be placed on a database and insured in accordance with Council's asset management plans and catalogued with details including title, image, size, and medium, artist, and provenance, date of acquisition, acquisition status, value, location and description.
- 3.1.4. The services of professionals in the field will be obtained for conservation, valuation, restoration and museum standard pest treatment.
- 3.1.5. "The Shoalhaven City Art Collection" will be stored at the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery, Nowra or as permanent exhibition throughout Council's City Administrative Centre, Nowra, or in a separate suitable location as deemed necessary.
- 3.1.6. Acquisition of artworks will be directed by this Policy and the following considerations:
  - The artwork's current and future relevance to the Collection
  - Local significance
  - Significance of the artist
  - Historical and/or cultural value
  - Cost and/or value for money
  - Available funding
  - Advantageous opportunities

**3.2. Gifts and Donations**

- 3.2.1. Artworks can be accepted into the Collection in the form of donations and bequests. The works must correspond with the details of the Collection Policy as part of acquisition procedure.
- 3.2.2. With consideration to insurance and risk requirements, artworks may be temporarily accepted by Council for the purposes of consideration of a donation or purchase, formal assessment of a work or to seek valuation of a work prior to acquisition.
- 3.2.3. The Shoalhaven Arts Board will accept donations and bequests under the Cultural Gifts Program which fulfil the requirement of the Collection Policy.
- 3.2.4. Objects outside the scope of this Policy and gifted to Council through national and international relations will be registered as Council assets in place of being accessioned.
- 3.2.5. Donors will be informed that neither conditions nor provenance will be accepted as part of the donation or bequest and that the art work/s becomes the property of Shoalhaven City Council and subject to its prevailing Policy.
- 3.2.6. On behalf of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection, Council will obtain clear and valid title to all purchases, bequests, gifts, donations or loans.
- 3.2.7. On rare occasion, when a unique bequest, which falls beyond the general guidelines is offered, the Shoalhaven Arts Board may deliberate over the acceptance of such a bequest and its capacity to honour any stated provenance. In this event, the Shoalhaven Arts Board will make a special recommendation to be ratified by Council.
- 3.2.8. Donations of money, grants or art works will be receipted within the convention and standards of the Australian Taxation Act.

**3.3. Loan Items**

- 3.3.1. Council's formal Artwork Loan Agreement is to clearly and contractually specify the conditions of any loan to or from the Collection and to be signed by relevant parties. The Agreement outlines detail relating to the term of loan, ownership, responsibilities, conservation, security, maintenance, insurance and date of return.
- 3.3.2. Items offered for loan are subject to the selection criteria and procedure contained in this Policy and do not warrant automatic inclusion into the Collection.
- 3.3.3. No loan of artworks will be accepted into Council's custody until such time as the matter has been formally considered and resolved by the Shoalhaven Arts Board to accept the works. Works accepted on loan will be maintained, insured and administered as collection items, however, Council does not own the items. Any valuation of the Art Collection should delineate between the value of the Collection owned as distinct from the value of the Collection administered.
- 3.3.4. Works on loan should not be lent to other institutions or individuals without the written consent of the owner of the work.

**3.4. Conflict of Interest**

- 3.4.1. Acquisition of works for the Shoalhaven City Art Collection will be in accordance with this Policy. At all times, Council and Shoalhaven Arts Board members are to declare any conflict of interest prior to deliberations on the acquisition of artworks.



*Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection - Acquisition and Collection Management*

- 3.4.2. Purchase or acceptance of donations from current full-time Council officers or Shoalhaven Arts Board members will not ensue without first obtaining an independent valuation of the work and ratification from the responsible delegated Council authority.

**4. PROCEDURES****4.1. Selection Procedure**

- 4.1.1. All proposed acquisitions, whether by purchase, gift, exchange or loan will be appraised by an Acquisition Sub-Committee comprising:
- a Councillor member as nominated by Council
  - Manager – Arts and Culture, Shoalhaven City Council
  - Two Shoalhaven Arts Board representatives (one with visual arts background) as nominated by the Board and
  - An invited/co-opted member of the arts community who possesses knowledge of Australian Art
- 4.1.2. Acquisition appraisals will be consistent with this Policy.
- 4.1.3. Works not accepted into the Shoalhaven City Art Collection may be considered for inclusion and registration as a Council asset without being accessioned as part of the Collection.
- 4.1.4. The Sub-committee may present the opportunity for specialist outside expert comment on proposed acquisitions.
- 4.1.5. All proposals and recommendations shall be in a written report and will include details of:
- The artist's name
  - Residential status
  - The title and image of the work
  - Date of execution
  - Medium and size
  - Method of acquisition
  - The vendor or donor
  - The provenance of the work
  - Price, valuation or insurance value if a gift or a loan
  - Current condition
- as well as a statement setting out the reasons for acquisition, its place in the collection and its merit as a work of art in its own right.
- 4.1.6. The Arts Manager, on the advice of the Arts Acquisition Sub-Committee, will present a recommendation to the Shoalhaven Arts Board for its consideration and adoption
- 4.1.7. Acknowledging that some artwork is sacred and restricted, only works intended for public display or approved for display in consultation with appropriate representatives and communities will be considered for acquisition.
- 4.1.8. No acquisition will be made which compromises or jeopardises the financial viability of the Collection budget.

*Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection - Acquisition and Collection Management*

4.1.9. The Shoalhaven Arts Board will not accept any work which bears any unreasonable or inappropriate restrictions on its display, storage, maintenance and provenance.

4.1.10. The Board will be mindful of Australian or international laws or covenants that restrict or govern the acquisition of cultural material.

**4.2. Accession**

4.2.1. Newly acquired works are to be registered in the Collection Management System on receipt by the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery. Registration and catalogue data include:

- issue of a unique identifier number
- photographic image of work
- information regarding materials, technique and provenance

4.2.2. File and document numbers of related documents such as Acquisition Agreement, Loan Agreement, Maintenance Schedule and Condition Report must also be entered into the database.

**4.3. Deaccessioning**

4.3.1. The process of removing or disposing of works in the collection, otherwise known as deaccessioning, will not be undertaken for any reason apart from:

- lack of relevance to the Collection
- duplication of another object in the collection
- requirement of prohibitive conservation work and/or the work is beyond repair
- the work has already been destroyed, lost or stolen
- cannot be suitably stored
- should be returned as restitution of cultural property
- subject to legislation which prevents Council holding title to it

4.3.2. For deaccessioning to proceed, the Board must receive written recommendation and formally determine to deaccession the work. The report will clearly state the reason for disposal and include:

- object unique identification number;
- description;
- photograph;
- advice on legal status (if available);
- any written specialist advice;
- impact the action would have on the collection; and
- suggested method of disposal

4.3.3. Where deaccessioning is approved the order of priorities for removing the work from the collection shall be:

- Donated works returned to the original donor / artist or next of kin
- Donated works offered as a donation to another cultural institution, or works that were purchased are offered for sale to another cultural institution based on current valuation.
- Works sold at auction and the proceeds of the sale reinvested into the collection acquisition fund.

*Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection - Acquisition and Collection Management*

- 4.3.4. For items that have already been destroyed, lost or stolen, the deaccessioning process must also be completed. The Board will then determine whether reasonable steps, if economically viable, have been taken to locate/recover /restore the work.
- 4.3.5. After a 2 month interval (cooling off period) works which have previously been presented to the Arts Board for deaccessioning and rejected, may be re-submitted for consideration and further determination by the Arts Board. .
- 4.3.6. Where artworks have been donated to the collection, the donor, or where feasible the next of kin, should be offered the opportunity to have the work returned to them. A reasonable effort should be made to contact the donor or next of kin to discuss the deaccessioning of the work. Works purchased via a collective (group) donation do not fit this category.
- 4.3.7. Procedural guidelines for each method of disposal and/or removal of artworks must be clearly defined, implemented and proceed in full public knowledge. Evidence of compliance should be attached to deaccessioning documentation.
- 4.3.8. Archived records documenting deaccessioned work will be permanently stored within Council.

**5. IMPLEMENTATION**

The Finance, Corporate & Community Services Group of Council will administer this policy.

**6. REVIEW**

To be reviewed within 1 year of the election of a new Council.

**7. APPLICATION OF ESD PRINCIPLES**

Council will maintain and store works to ensure the preservation of artworks and Council's investment.

## AB22.6 Shoalhaven Arts Board 2021 / 2022 Grants Program - Awarding of Grants

**HPERM Ref:** D22/62262

**Department:** Arts & Culture

**Approver:** Jane Lewis, Director - City Lifestyles

### Reason for Report

To inform the Shoalhaven Arts Board of the recommendations by the Arts Board Grants working party for awarding the 2021/22 Shoalhaven Arts Board Grants.

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

That

1. The Shoalhaven Arts Board grants be allocated as follows:
  - a. Professional Development Grants
    - i. Brooke Boland – Advanced Creative Non-Fiction course - \$420
    - ii. Joanna Thomas – Colour Pencils in Contemporary Botanical Art - \$1,900
    - iii. Damien Lane and Johnny Leahy – Attendance at the Australian International Documentary Conference 2022 - \$3,000
  - b. Sense of Place Grants
    - i. Connect Sanctuary Point – Outdoor Art Space - \$2,500
    - ii. Shoalhaven Youth Orchestra – South Coast Sketches - \$10,000
    - iii. Headspace Nowra – Vincentia High School Pride Mural - \$10,000
    - iv. Nowra Public School – Connecting Community to School - \$10,000
2. The remaining funding from the Grants Program (\$1,180) and the remaining budget in the 2020 Schools Art Project (\$3,100) are combined providing funding of \$4,280.
3. Funding of \$4,280 is allocated to Headspace Nowra to support the documentation of their Sense of Place project contingent on Headspace providing evidence to of their ability to fund any shortfall in the project budget.

### Options

1. Accept the Recommendation as printed

Implications: The grant monies will be disbursed in line with the grant programs and the recommendations of the working group.

2. Amend the Recommendation

Implications: The monies may not be disbursed in a timely manner and may not be allocated to the projects that best fit the advertised grant program.

### 3. Reject the Recommendation

Implications: The monies may not be disbursed in a timely manner and may not be allocated within the current financial year.

## Background

The Shoalhaven Arts Board grants closed on 10 December 2021, having been open for an eight-week period. They were advertised through social media, the South Coast Register, and e-newsletters.

There were two grant programs open for applications:

1. Professional Development – for amounts up to \$3,000
2. Sense of place – for a project with a public outcome and amounts up to \$10,000

A total of 13 applications were received across the two programs.

The Arts Grants working party, consisting of Dr Lynda Kelly, Jenny Thompson and Christine Dunstan, along with Council's Arts & Culture Manager - Bronwyn Coulston, met on 1 February 2022 to review the applications and make recommendations for funding.

These recommendations and the reasoning are as follows:

### Professional Development Grants

Applications in this stream were slightly lower than in previous years with six (6) applications received. The recommendations for funding are based on the applicant showing a clear opportunity for professional development through activities appropriate to their career stage and opportunities for growth.

- 1) Brooke Boland – Advanced Creative Non-Fiction Course – requested \$420 – to be fully funded

This funding will go towards a six-week creative non-fiction masterclass that focuses on writing well-crafted true stories. This course will lead to the development of new creative non-fiction essays that focus on life in the Shoalhaven.

- 2) Joanna Thomas – Colour Pencils in Contemporary Botanical Art – requested \$1,900 – to be fully funded

This funding will support Joanna to undertake professional development with the progressive and contemporary Botanical Artists' Society of QLD, in the use of colour pencils, as the new widely accepted medium in Botanical Art.

This course allows experimentation with different brands and qualities, understanding of colour mixing and techniques unique to colour pencil. This course would also allow networking with members from another Botanical Art Society.

- 3) Damien Lane and Johnny Leahy - Attendance at the Australian International Documentary Conference 2022 – requested \$3,000 – to be fully funded

Damien Lane and Jonnie Leahy, both of Cambewarra, are filmmakers attending the 2022 Australian International Documentary Conference. This will enhance their skillset, foster networks, stimulate potential projects, and promote forthcoming work including the documentary 'An Artist Responds', profiling acclaimed Shoalhaven-based artist Tamara Dean's practice during Covid and the bushfires.

- 4) Sarah Round – Personal Development in digital marketing of Rainbow Parrot Design Studio – requested \$3,000 – not recommended for funding

Funding was requested to support the artist to create momentum in the early stages of their recently opened art business. The working group felt the application lacked clear professional development outcomes and the project had not been well thought through.

- 5) Yu Yang – One man's trash is another man's treasure (Documentary Film) – requested \$3,000 – not recommended for funding

The funding request was for the purposes of purchasing a new camera suitable for shooting a planned documentary. The working group felt the application lacked clear professional development outcomes and did not meet the aims of the grant.

- 6) Claire Chapman – Bingo! – requested \$2,893.46 – not recommended for funding

The funding request was to support the continued development and showcasing of the show 'Bingo!', which has been performed in various iterations since 2017. The working group, while providing positive feedback on the show and the success of the artist, as well as an understanding of the need to continually update and refresh one-woman shows, did not feel the application properly expressed how the proposed activity supported professional development for the artist.

### **A Sense of Place Grants**

There were seven (7) applications in this stream, with the majority of applications showing a clear understanding of the purpose of the grant program and deep community engagement. Recommendations for funding are based on projects being well thought out, having real and meaningful community outcomes, and seeking to fill gaps in arts opportunities across the Shoalhaven.

- 1) Connect Sanctuary Point – Outdoor Art Space – requested \$2,500 – to be fully funded

This project will see Connect Sanctuary Point work with local artist Tanya Williamson to create a series of artworks that inspire young children's creativity outdoors. Connect Sanctuary Point are a family support community centre located within the grounds of Sanctuary Point Public School. They support a wide range of community engagement including a very popular playgroup.

The children will watch Tanya Williamson create some panels of indigenous artwork, depicting the local fauna (such as kangaroos, cockatoos, galahs, echidnas, frogs, lizards and snakes) and flora, such as banksia, wattle, waratah. Teachers and parents will use this art to inform the teaching of creative and expressive arts as well as first nation's history through the art of storytelling.

There will also be a traditional mosaic on the ground nearby, to give a diversity of view of texture, and space. There will be an outdoor art studio with a variety of materials to satisfy creative inspirations.

There will be music and dance as well as large muscle experiences performed adjacent to the art, daily, as part of an acknowledgment of the country we inhabit.

- 2) Shoalhaven Youth Orchestra – South Coast Sketches – requested \$10,000 – to be fully funded

This project will support SYO to champion original local orchestral content that tells the stories of our community.

SYO will commission and record ten orchestral works that tell stories from the region based on known locals and destinations. Through commissioning ten works from local composer and SYO alumni Ryley Gillen, SYO will highlight local characters



including NSW Rural Fire Service volunteer Velma Walker, wildlife carer Dusty Jones and Berry Museum architect William Wilkinson Wardell. Works will also bring light-heartedness to fictitious stories involving Pig Island, infamous endangered bell frogs and pirates on the Shoalhaven River.

The completed works will be recorded on CD and performed live by the SYO.

The working group were impressed with the project, which has already received partial funding from Create NSW and commented that the SYO having previously received two professional development grants, are showing the growth and development possible with vision and support.

- 3) Headspace Nowra – Vincentia High School Pride Mural – requested \$10,000 – to be fully funded

This project will create a collaborative artwork that celebrates our vibrant and inclusive community. Bringing together artists, school students and a youth mental health service -it will be a testament of what we can achieve when we work together. Artist: Bjarni Wark *"I believe in connecting community through public art. Curating playful, colourful, quirky street art can positively engage young people, activate spaces and shift cultural narratives with place. I'm really excited to partner with headspace Nowra, Vincentia High and Queers Down South to create a vibrant and colourful artwork that brings people together and celebrates inclusivity!"*

The working group were highly supportive of this project, acknowledging the current gap in public art that celebrates pride and supports LGBTIQ+ youth in the Shoalhaven. They encourage Headspace and Vincentia High School to find a way to document the process of this project and share the information widely with schools, other regional arts organisations and the wider community. As the project will be delivered within the grounds of Vincentia High School, it is important to find additional opportunities to make the mural accessible through documentation and digital platforms.

- 4) Nowra Public School – Connecting Community to School – requested \$10,000 – to be fully funded

The project will support Nowra Public School to engage with professional artists and support school students exploring different art opportunities across a period of time.

The outcome of this engagement will be presented through a community event with students, artists and the wider community invited to celebrate the art created and see the benefits of arts engagement for students.

- 5) Natalie Harker – Kangaroo Valley – A sense of place – requested \$10,000 – not recommended for funding

This project sought to collect stories of Kangaroo Valley which would be made public through digital channels. The working group felt the project needed to be better resolved prior to funding. They recommended that the applicant make contact with the existing groups in Kangaroo Valley such as the Historical Society and use existing knowledge and connections to better embed the project.

- 6) Playwell Inc – Inhabit – requested \$10,000 – not recommended for funding

This project sought to bring together a range of creatives to submit ideas responding the everyday life in the Shoalhaven through the theme, Inhabit. The responses would be collated into three collaborative works with the works presented on a mini-site in the Saltbush digital platform.

The working group felt this project lacked focus and direction and was not clearly presented in how it moved from a large range of creative inputs to three works only.

- 7) Barron Hanson – Be Here Nowra Magazine – requested \$10,000 – not recommended for funding

This project was the support the production and printing of a proposed new publication 'Be Here Nowra'. The publication would be both print and digital and support local art and culture with a dash of mindfulness.

The working group felt this project did not show a strong awareness of the changes in media consumption and had not sought out appropriate partnerships in the region. They were also concerned about the longevity of the project once the requested funding was expended.

A secondary project aligned to the Headspace Nowra application was also submitted.

The Working Group recommend that the remaining budget is allocated to Headspace Nowra for the purposes of documenting the Pride Mural project. The funding would be contingent on Headspace providing a suitable budget to the Manager – Arts and Culture and showing their ability to fund any shortfall in the project budget.

### Community Engagement

The Grants program was advertised through a range of social media and print channels with the Facebook posts on Council's page boosted to targeted audiences in the Shoalhaven.

In reviewing the applications, the working group considered the community impact of the projects put forward and the positive engagement that would come from funded projects.

### Financial Implications

Funding of the recommended projects requires \$37,820 from the budget of \$39,000 available, leaving a balance of \$1,180.

There is a further \$3,100 remaining in the 2020 Art Project budget that can be allocated to further activities if suitable. Providing \$4,280 in total. This could be used to support a secondary project aligned to the Headspace Nowra application for the purposes of documenting the Pride Mural project.

Allocation of the funding would be contingent on Headspace providing evidence of a suitable budget to the Manager – Arts and Culture and showing their ability to fund any shortfall in the project budget.

As Headspace Nowra have already applied for the full allocation under the Sense of Place Grant (\$10,000), any further funding would need to be a separate project, and not an extension of their current request.

## AB22.7 Public Art - Opportunities and Requirements

**HPERM Ref:** D22/62263

**Department:** Arts & Culture

**Approver:** Jane Lewis, Director - City Lifestyles

**Attachments:** 1. Public Art Policy [↓](#)  
2. Developing Public Art: Themes and a Sense of Place. [↓](#)

### Reason for Report

To inform the Arts Board of the opportunity available to significantly enhance approaches to public art across the Shoalhaven and seek support for a budget bid to achieve the project.

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

That Council consider allocating funds of \$100,000 in the 2022/23 budget process to contract an arts specialist to:

1. Undertake a full review of the current Public Art Policy and make recommendations for a new policy that supports innovative and best practice approach to public art in the Shoalhaven.
2. Develop suitable internal procedures and documentation that ensures that consistent approach and standards are applied to Public Art projects, supporting excellence in commissioning standard, safety and community engagement
3. Document all existing public art across the Shoalhaven, it's current condition, conservation / maintenance needs and status for recording in the City Collection Management system

### Options

1. Accept the Recommendation as printed

Implications: Understanding of public art in the Shoalhaven will be elevated and Council will be better positioned to maximise opportunities and associated benefits of a Public Art program that supports excellence.

2. Amend the Recommendation

Implications: Unknown at this time.

3. Reject the Recommendation

Implications: The delivery and management of Public Art in the Shoalhaven will continue in the present form.

### Background

In the past 3-5 years there has been a significant increase in Public Art activity across the Shoalhaven, for both art generated by community groups and art generated by Council for a range of purposes including place making; social inclusion; cultural awareness; tourism; crime prevention and to celebrate local artists.

The benefits of public art are consistently noted in research around the world. Americans for the Arts noted in their Green Paper on Public Art that *Public art humanizes the built environment and invigorates public spaces. It provides an intersection between past, present and future, between disciplines, and between ideas. Public art is freely accessible.* ([https://www.americansforthearts.org/sites/default/files/PublicArtNetwork\\_GreenPaper.pdf](https://www.americansforthearts.org/sites/default/files/PublicArtNetwork_GreenPaper.pdf))

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries in WA state that *Public art can deliver social, aesthetic, economic, cultural and heritage benefits.* (<https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/culture-and-the-arts/public-art#Benefitsofpublicart> )

The Houston Complete Communities project (started in 2017) is a city wide program to reduce the inequality between part of the city by addressing a series of 'quality of life' issues. Public Art is one of the central components of the project, with project coordinators noting that Public art is '*an opportunity for the community to make a statement about its values and the cultural heritage of the neighbourhood*' (<https://kinder.rice.edu/urbanedge/2020/05/15/civic-pride-slowing-traffic-public-art-public-good> )

The recent increase in interest and activity in public art in the Shoalhaven shows the community is keen to see the City engage with more public art projects across the whole spectrum of opportunity, from standalone sculptures installed in public spaces, to integrated public art in capital projects, temporary activations of sites and site specific responses (both permanent and temporary / ephemeral).

There is a wealth of opportunity for capitalising on the civic, social and economic benefits of public art if there is an aspiration for Council to do so.

To achieve the necessary framework and structure to maximise the opportunities it will be necessary to:

- a) Undertake a full review of the existing Public Art Policy, the 'Sense of Place' document and internal processes for delivering public art projects.
- b) Conduct information and consultation sessions with stakeholders both internally and within the community to understand opportunities and what is needed from a policy and procedures to support deliver of public art projects.
- c) Document all current public art projects across the city, noting their history, condition and status.

The Public Art project will provide Shoalhaven City Council with a strong foundation to build from, addressing the lack of cohesiveness currently experienced due to an out of date strategy and guidance document.

With this framework Council will be in a position to capitalise on opportunities such as promoting planned public art projects and seeking suitable donations through the cultural gifts program for major commissions and / or installations.

The identification of possible public art trails and public areas for sculptures may provide opportunities for Council to collaborate with organisations and benefactors such as Arts in the Valley, Willinga Park, Sculptures by the Sea and the Dingle Hughes Bequest collection to achieve strategic outcomes adopted as part of the framework.

This project will need to be outsourced through the engagement of suitably experienced arts professional / arts organisation with the specialised skill sets and knowledge of best practice in contemporary public art. A member of staff will be the project officer with oversight of this. While there may be grant opportunities to support and facilitate this activity, it is requested that Council initially provide the full amount required to achieve this project, ensuring it can go ahead and providing funding that can be used as co-funding in any grant submissions.

### **Community Engagement**

The proposed approach will provide opportunity for community stakeholders to provide input into the formation of the Public Art Policy and the associated processes. It will also significantly improve Council's ability to engage the community and meet community expectation for future public art activities, by providing a consistent approach, meeting best practise and ensuring clarity in understanding of roles and responsibilities.

### **Policy Implications**

This project will see the current Public Art Policy reviewed and rewritten based on wide stakeholder consultation, ensuring the policy meets the needs of both internal and external stakeholders and supports Council's work.

### **Financial Implications**

There is no current budget allocated to this project. Funding will need to be assigned through the budget process.

The project is estimated at \$100,000 to contract an arts professional with significant experience in developing public art policy and strategy, as well as undertaking a review of all existing public art within the Shoalhaven and documenting this in a way that can be easily transferred to the existing Art Collection Management System.

The Shoalhaven Arts Board support is sought to request Council consider the allocation of funding for this project as part of the 2022/23 budget process.



**City Administrative Centre**  
Bridge Road (PO Box 42), Nowra NSW Australia 2541 - DX 5323 Nowra  
Phone: (02) 4429 3111 - Fax: (02) 4422 1816

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Deering Street, Ulladulla - Phone: (02) 4429 8999 – Fax: (02) 4429 8939

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Website: [www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](http://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

For more information contact the Finance Corporate & Community Services Group

## Public Art

**Policy Number:** POL16/197 • **Adopted:** 19/04/2013 • **Adopted:** 27/06/2017 • **Minute Number:** MIN13.178, MIN17.564 • **File:** 41419E • **Produced By:** Finance Corporate & Community Services Group • **Review Date:** 1/12/2020

### 1. PURPOSE

To provide a policy for the development, planning, acquisition, maintenance, de-accessioning and integration of public art that supports the development of a diverse range of permanent, temporary and ephemeral artworks in public places which contribute to the social, cultural, environmental and economic value of the Shoalhaven region.

### 2. STATEMENT

Shoalhaven City Council recognises that public art is as diverse as the landscape of the region in which it is presented. Public Art is inspired and informed by a multitude of environments – the cultural, physical, political, emotional and spiritual. Shoalhaven City Council is committed to establishing a standard of excellence that underpins the implementation of public art throughout the region. This Policy will refer to art that is distinctly separate from the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection.

#### 2.1. Scope

For the purposes of this policy, public art typically refers to contemporary artwork occurring in public spaces, in both public and private developments, away from the confines of traditional galleries and museums. Public arts can be comprised of diverse art forms and materials to produce both permanent and temporary works that enrich the City's public spaces, assist in the creation of a 'sense of place' and are created by highly experienced public artists, young and emerging artists and artists working in a community setting.

A best practice approach, particularly in integrated public art, involves close collaboration between artists, professionals or designers who work in the built environment, key project stakeholders and community. Examples might include street furniture (chairs, tables, gates etc), playground equipment, bike racks, signage, lighting, pavements as well as components in buildings, bridges and major asset developments.

The *Public Art Policy* outlines strategies and procedures relevant to the achievement of public art projects and cover areas such as maintenance, conservation, archiving, de-accessioning of works and professional development for the artist/s.



## 2.2. Background

The development of public space portrays interactions within and between communities. As a contributing element in the shaping of public space, public art signifies its local and regional identity - revealing aspects of community history, character and aspirations. Public art provides opportunity to forge an environment of inclusiveness through careful selection, maintenance and appropriateness to the context of place.

Shoalhaven City Council seeks to build a strong vital arts and heritage culture that acknowledges, promotes and reflects the diversity of its people through the exchange of ideas and responsible urban planning that enhances the quality of public space for residents, ratepayers and visitors.

## 3. PROVISIONS

To achieve this commitment, and in partnership with stakeholders and relevant agencies, Shoalhaven City Council will put into practice the following specifications:

### 3.1. Key Principles for Public Art Approval

Evaluation and implementation of all public artworks will be based on the following criteria:

- Standards of excellence and innovation
- Appropriateness of the work relative to purpose and context of its site
- Relevance to the Arts Board Strategic Plan 2020
- Consistency with current planning, heritage and environmental policies and plans of management
- Consideration of public safety; the public's access to and use of the public domain
- Consideration of sustainability and maintenance requirements
- Evidence of funding source and satisfactory budget including an allocation for ongoing maintenance if appropriate
- Evidence of formal agreement between Council and artist/s specific to the acquisition being undertaken
- Non-duplication of monuments commemorating the same or similar events

### 3.2. Approval Process for Public Art

New Public Art Projects can be developed and approved through the following means:

- Commissioning by Shoalhaven City Council of a specific artist for a project
- Purchase by Shoalhaven City Council of a suitable work
- Loan of a work by an artist / collector to Shoalhaven City Council for a specific time period
- Gift or donation to Shoalhaven City Council by an artist or collector
- Application to Shoalhaven City Council by an artist or group for the development and installation of a new work.

Where an application, loan, gift or donation is made to Shoalhaven City Council approval for the Public Art project will require:

- Application made to council in writing, describing the project or work, and demonstrating how it meets the Key Principles for Public Art (3.1)

*Shoalhaven City Council - Public Art*

- If a development approval is deemed to be required, this must be submitted prior to any further approval processes being undertaken
- Details of the proposal must be advertised publicly and response sought from interested citizens
- Comment should be sought from the Unit Manager – Arts and Culture; the Shoalhaven Arts Board; relevant Group Directors as appropriate, Council's Insurance Officer and Council's WHS Unit Manager.
- The Unit Manager – Arts and Culture will be responsible for informing the applicant of the outcome of their application but will not be responsible for justifying the decision.

**4. DE-ACCESSIONING OF PUBLIC ART**

Where a work has been severely damaged, has lost the original intent or relevance, has reached its agreed lifespan or Council is redeveloping the site, Council has the right to de-accession the work.

De-accessioning of a work can only be undertaken following an assessment and review process which considers:

- The historical, cultural and artistic value of the work
- The origins and acquisition status of the work
- Options and cost to repair or restore the work
- Opportunities to relocate or rehome the work at an alternate council site.

Where the decision is made to de-accession a permanent public artwork, Council shall undertake the following process:

- The work shall firstly be offered for return to the artist / donor or next of kin
- The work shall then be offered to another council, cultural institution or community group
- Only if no other option is available shall the work be sold and the proceeds from the sale shall be added to the Art Collection Reserve

**5. COLLECTION RESPONSIBILITY**

The collection is administered by Council's designated arts unit, in consultation with other Council units as appropriate.

All items of public art shall be placed on the public art data base, administered by the Arts & Culture Unit and insured in accordance with Council's asset management plans and catalogued with details including title, image, size, and medium, artist, and provenance, date of purchase, value, storage place and description.

**6. FUNDING**

The following sources of funding should be considered and pursued as appropriate:

- Council's annual capital works and operational budgets.
- Donations and sponsorships from the private sector.
- State and Federal Government funding.
- Public funding for projects and "in kind" support from the community and commercial sector.

*Shoalhaven City Council - Public Art***7. IMPLEMENTATION**

The Finance Corporate and Community Services Group is allocated overall responsibility for the administration and implementation of this policy.

Internal departments tasked with responsibilities relating to public art will jointly implement the Public Art Policy to maximise opportunities, coordinate efforts, ensure efficiencies and reduce costs.

**8. REVIEW**

To be reviewed within 1 year of the election of a new Council.

**9. APPLICATION OF ESD PRINCIPLES**

This policy meets the ESD Principle of developing Social Integrity. Council will maintain and conserve works to ensure the preservation of public art and Council's investment.



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## Introduction

In Australia, contemporary public art practice has become increasingly diverse, covering activities ranging from physically integrated artworks to ephemeral digital projections and temporary installations.

Whatever the final form of the artwork might be, it should wherever possible be based on concepts that are site specific and culturally relevant to the place and the people who will use or visit the place. In this sense, public art can contribute to the place making of a location and the interpretation of a place. It can aid the understanding of history or cultural heritage, assist how people currently understand or use the space, or provide new meanings.

The successful integration of art with public space across the range of urban and natural environments can deliver a range of benefits in regards to economic development, social cohesion, urban rejuvenation and tourism.

This document provides direction and inspiration to support Council's recently adopted Public Art Policy (POL12/351).

The areas covered in this document have been guided by the direction of the project brief and include:

- o Nowra/Berry
- o Huskisson/Vincentia
- o Sussex Inlet
- o Milton/Ulladulla

Part A identifies locations, themes and opportunities guided by relevant DCPs and site specific Master Plans. It is important, however, that identified themes are not too prescriptive, allowing the community and artist a degree of artistic freedom in future works and events.

Part B provides best practice examples from regional cities in Australia and around the globe that are relevant to various themes and locations nominated in the Shoalhaven. It also provides an implementation plan outlining short, medium, and long term priorities.

Introduction

## Themes and locations - General

### Shoalhaven Context

The Shoalhaven region stretches from Berry in the north to North Durras in the south. It is bordered by the mountains, coastal plains and 109 magnificent beaches, and includes 49 towns and villages.

The regions beautiful natural environment plays a central role in the quality of life of the local community. It's temperate coastal climate, rich array of native flora and fauna, many natural attractions and its thriving commercial and retail sectors make the Shoalhaven an appealing place to live and work.

The Shoalhaven is home to a range of artistic and cultural institutions including Shoalhaven City Arts Centre, Arthur Boyd's Bundanon & Riversdale properties, Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre, Lady Denham heritage museum, Fleet Air Museum as well as local and community museums and galleries.

There are currently pockets of active art communities who have contributed to providing public art installations and events within their own public spaces. The aim is to provide a more unified vision for public art in the Shoalhaven whilst still reflecting the unique culture of it's various towns and villages.

### SHOALHAVEN GATEWAYS

There is current and planned works to upgrade the Princes Hwy which runs through the Shoalhaven. This will have a significant impact on the entries to many of the towns. In the short term, Berry will be bypassed and the Berry to Bomaderry Hwy will be upgraded. In the long term, there are plans to bypass the Nowra Urban Area along with Milton and Ulladulla.

There is an opportunity to incorporate gateway public art as each town's entry experience is impacted. Not only would these public art elements act as a gateway, they would also function in a practical way as a design cue to slow driver's down as they enter urban areas. Gateway elements could include stand alone installations with night lighting, but also be incorporated on road infrastructure such as overpasses or attenuation barriers.

The two railway stations of the Shoalhaven: Berry and Bomaderry could also benefit from public art markers. In particular a public art element at Bomaderry train station (other than existing internal mural) would encourage public transport use, improve the first impression many travellers have of the Shoalhaven, create a more memorable meeting place, and instill local ownership and pride.



## Themes and locations - Nowra

### Analysis

Being the largest coastal urban centre between Wollongong and the Victorian border, Nowra functions as the business and administrative 'capital' of the Shoalhaven. Nowra is also a centre for education, shopping, health, entertainment, and culture for residents of the Nowra urban area and surrounding villages.

Despite its regional significance and location on the beautiful Shoalhaven River, Nowra is yet to establish a cohesive character or identity. This in part can be attributed to the town being dissected by the Princes Hwy and also how development has tended to turn its back on much of its natural beauty. With a few exceptions, public art in Nowra has been comparably rare. An active public art strategy would provide an opportunity to increase community pride, reflect and recognise local history and culture and increase local engagement. In this sense, public art in the Nowra CBD is seen as a priority over other areas covered in this document.

An opportunity exists for public art implementation to align with the recently developed Nowra CBD Master Plan, which outlines a strategic direction to revitalise the Nowra CBD over the next 25 years to improve the 'quality and attractiveness of the public domain as a catalyst to encourage development'. The Public Domain Framework Strategy in the CBD Master Plan outlines proposed gateways, greenlinks and public open spaces. It also suggests specific areas for open space and laneway revitalisation and streetscape improvement.

### Themes

There are numerous traditional 'themes' that could inform public art in Nowra relating to history, nature, indigenous culture, industry and rural setting. More importantly however, future public art within Nowra's urban area should reflect Contemporary Nowra's emerging identity as a centre for food, knowledge, family, health and wellbeing. This would have a significant impact in defining Nowra's identity and culture and engaging the community. It is envisaged that public art would be bolder and more prominent than other Shoalhaven locations. It would be interactive, fun, cater for night and day activities, and be more cutting edge in terms of function, themes and technology. There is also an opportunity to be inspired by Nowra's natural setting on the Shoalhaven River. This could include kinetic and dynamic installations of 'Living Art' that interpret natural elements.

### Locations

#### ACTIVATION OF URBAN SPACES

Junction Court and Egans Lane (subject to future development) should provide public art that attracts people, in particular children. The type of artwork installed should be interactive with a playful element; art that encourages children and families to engage and connect with one another.

#### STREETSCAPES

Public art elements should be integrated into Junction and Berry St to enrich the main shopping thoroughfares and accentuate the emerging Berry Street cultural precinct.

#### REVITALISATION OF LANEWAYS

Along with an active anti graffiti policy, Council could develop a street art policy. With the permission of the property owner and council, an artist may obtain a permit to paint on identified laneway walls (eg: Emporium Lane, Fitzgerald Lane, Smith Lane). The gated walkway between Emporium Lane and Junction Street has been identified as an ideal location for temporary art installation and/or events.

#### ART TRAIL LINKING NOWRA CBD WITH SHOWGROUND AND RIVER PRECINCT

In keeping with the proposed green link along Junction Street, strategically placed artwork would reinforce a link from the Nowra CBD to the Nowra Showground and ultimately to the River Precinct. This art trail loop would also promote health and well being in the community. Ideal Junction St locations include Junction Court, an upgrade of the Post Office forecourt, Rauch Park, and finally to a culturally sensitive element at Hanging Rock which promotes the viewpoint and picnic area.

The art trail loop could be listed on Google Maps. This will provide users with background information about the artwork as well as encouraging physical activity and movement around the proposed green links in the CBD.

#### SENSORY ART GARDEN

A sensory art garden is proposed to be incorporated into the art trail at Nowra Park and the western perimeter of the health precinct. It would offer users of the hospital, cancer clinic, and future medical developments an opportunity to engage with sensory art in a natural setting, providing healing and reflective opportunities.

#### VIBRANT GREEN SPACES FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS

The grassed forecourt of the Entertainment Centre, River Promenade and Grey's Beach Reserve have been identified as open air areas for community events and exhibitions. This may include twilight cinema, temporary sculpture walks, or video projections. For example, projections onto the Nowra Bridge in summer months would help to stimulate use of the River Promenade and Grey's Beach areas in the evenings.

#### ACTIVATION OF UNUSED BUILDING SPACES

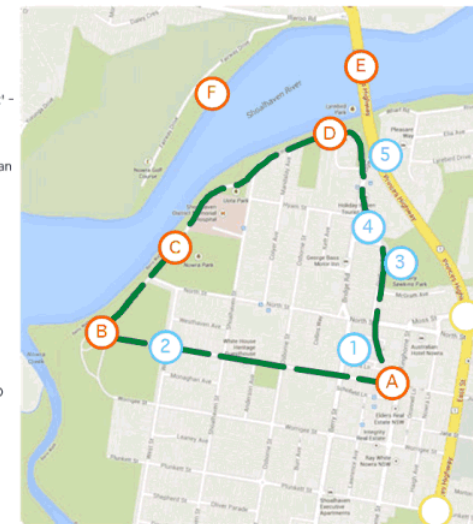
This aim is to place artists, cultural projects and community groups from the region in unused building spaces to activate and revitalise the CBD.

### Themes Summary

- ★ Contemporary Nowra - food, knowledge, family, health & wellbeing
- 🌿 Natural Elements 'Living Art' - mountains, bush, river, rock
- 🍷 Indigenous Culture - including contemporary Aboriginal Culture in an urban environment
- 🏭 Industry - defence, agriculture, paper
- 🏛️ Historical Shoalhaven

### Legend

- Proposed Locations
- Existing Locations
- Proposed Gateways (as identified in Nowra CBD Master Plan)
- Proposed Urban Spaces & Laneways
- Art Trail Loop
- Art Integrated into Streetscape Upgrade



### Notes

- A. Town Centre
  - B. Hanging Rock Picnic Area
  - C. Sensory Garden
  - D. River Promenade
  - E. Nowra Bridge
  - F. Greys Beach
  - G. Junction Court
  - H. Egans Lane
  - I. Post Office Corner
  - J. Rauch Park
  - K. Laneways
1. Shoalhaven Arts Centre and Forecourt
  2. War memorial
  3. Harry Sawkins Mural
  4. Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre and Forecourt
  5. Existing Gateway Features (Nowra Entry Sign & Helicopter)



## Themes and Locations - Berry

### Analysis

Berry has an iconic heritage & rural character, particularly expressed within its architecture and landscape. The preservation of the historical character of the Berry Town Centre is a fundamental objective of the Berry DCP. Berry's town centre is widely known for its boutique retail experience and gourmet produce. Currently, there is little designated public art within Berry, with existing elements drawing reference to the historical figure of Alexander Berry.

### Themes

The nature of public art should be complimentary to Berry's established rural village character whilst also being of a more contemporary and eclectic nature that is aligned to the modern boutique and gourmet food experience of the town centre. These themes could also align with existing tourist events around food, wine, boutique farms and gardens, and the *Tour de Berry*. Public art should include local artists and community initiatives where possible.

### Locations

Because of Berry's distinct existing character, public art need not have a dominant presence within the town centre. It could however serve to enhance key community hubs such as Broughton Place linking Queens St to the northern car park by upgrading or replacing streetscape infrastructure such as the community notice board, furniture, or raised brick plant beds with vibrant local art makeovers. Providing a point of interest in this location would assist in linking the Queen Street retail strip with the northern shopping precinct and reinforce a central hub for gathering and meeting. The nature of the public art would reflect a contemporary and eclectic Berry character that compliments the retail experience rather than the heritage aspect of Berry.

Another area identified is the Berry Railway Station. A contemporary public marker at this location with possible additional elements along the Alexandra Street pathway would assist in the legibility of the station within the town centre, encourage public transport use, and define the pedestrian link between the station and the town centre (via significant town memorials, the showground, and the school of arts).

The proposed Berry Bypass will also create new opportunities for public art locations. This could include elements within a planned recreational park between North Street and the bypass where new park infrastructure like playground equipment and picnic shelters could interpret Berry themes. There is also an opportunity to integrate public art elements within the infrastructure of future streetscape upgrades to Queen St (existing highway) as it evolves from heavy vehicle use to a pedestrian orientated thoroughfare. This may include street furniture, pavement inlays and banners.

It should also be noted that the existing 'Berry Heads' northern gateway sculpture will be relocated to perform the same function at the new Berry entry from the Bypass.

### Themes Summary

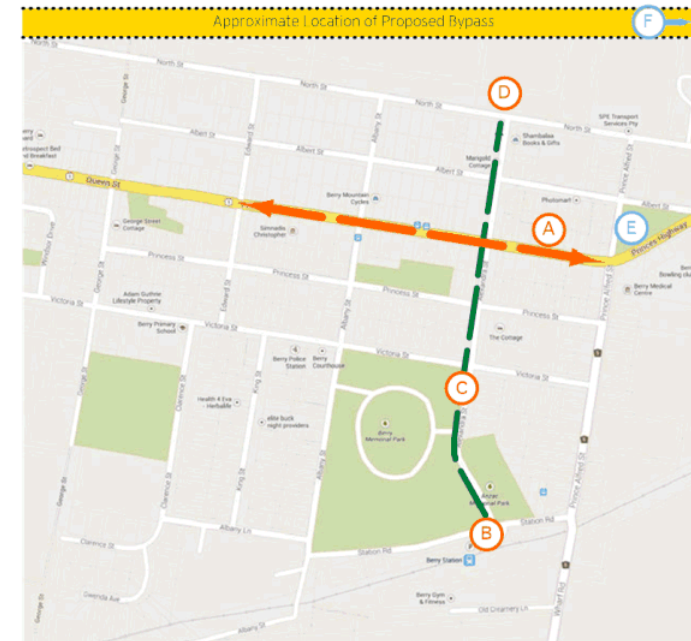
- ★ Contemporary Berry - boutique food, wine, gardens, shopping & café culture
- T Rural agriculture
- Historical Berry

### Legend

- Proposed Locations
- Existing Location
- Art Trail
- Art integrated into Streetscape Upgrade

### Notes

- A. Community Hub Walkway
- B. Railway Station
- C. Alexandra St Pathway
- D. Recreational Park
- E. Alexander Berry Monument
- F. Relocated 'Berry Heads' Entry Sculpture





## Themes and Locations - Huskisson & Vincentia

### Analysis

Huskisson and Vincentia are both connected with the pristine natural environment of Jervis Bay. Huskisson in particular has a vibrant cafe and shopping culture with a sufficient marine themed streetscape. The desired future character statement from the Huskisson Tourist Town Centre DCP states that *"The Huskisson Tourist Town Centre is the gateway to Jervis Bay; A Tourist Town in a unique and pristine environment; A centre with a rich boat building history; A business centre orientated to take advantage of Bay side view and traditional waterside activities; and A community which lives in harmony with its natural environment and the future."* The DCP also indicates that any future streetscaping is to adopt a maritime/leisure theme.

Vincentia town centre on the other hand is more utilitarian in character and is currently under threat by an alternative retail development.

The Jervis Bay community has a strong artistic representation and enjoys an active outdoor lifestyle. Local parks and the shared pathway between the towns are frequently utilised by residents and visitors alike. It is seen that these elements would be ideal for future public art installations and events.

### Themes

Jervis Bay is an international tourist destination and future public art in Huskisson and Vincentia should interpret and enhance its marine environment and history. This could be achieved through environmental, socially aware, natural, and educational installations regarding the surrounding marine environment.

### Locations

Open space adjoining the town centres would be highly desirable locations for interpretive public art and events. A good existing example of this is White Sands Park where the park upgrade has an interpretive component (eg: naval ship playground and seagrass pavement motifs). The northern end of White Sands Park is in a very prominent location. It provides an ideal spot to install an interactive sculpture that engages and orientates users by framing and identifying key views and locations around the bay.

Voyager Memorial Park has seating interpreting the ship building history of the area. The reserve is undergoing a new master plan and is an ideal location for more public art elements and events integrated into any future upgrade, particularly relating to the ANZAC memorial and HMAS Voyager disaster.

Other reserves on the bay such as Moona Moona would also be suitable for holding public art events such as moonlight cinema or temporary exhibitions.




The Huskisson Jetty would be another location where a public art marker that is visible from the bay and the town centre could be installed. A similar installation would be relevant for the Vincentia shopping hub.

The shared pathway between the two towns is another element that could benefit from regular interpretive installations as a means to further encourage education, health and well being.

### Themes Summary

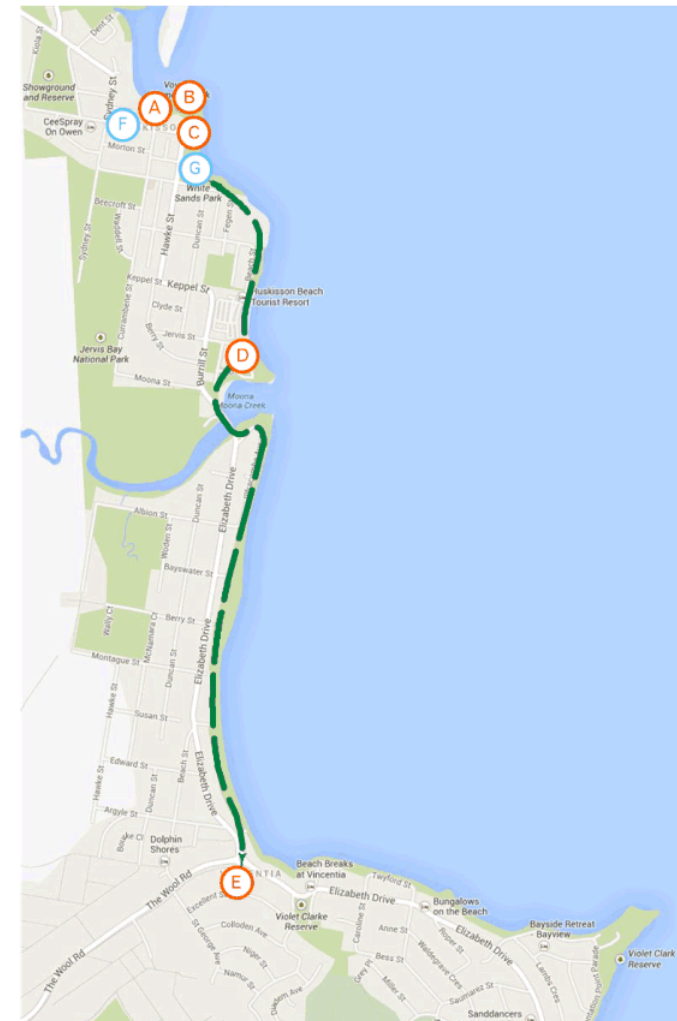
-  Marine Ecology - Protection & Education
-  Maritime - Boat Building & Naval History
-  Indigenous Culture

### Legend

-  Proposed Locations
-  Existing Locations
-  Art & Events Trail

### Notes

- A. Huskisson Jetty
- B. Voyager Memorial Park
- C. Northern White Sands Park
- D. Huskisson to Vincentia Shared Path and Reserves
- E. Vincentia Town Centre
- F. Huskisson Town Centre
- G. White Sands Park





## Themes and locations - Sussex Inlet

### Analysis

Sussex Inlet is a popular tourist and retirement destination with a strong emphasis on water activities and fishing. The town centre has a low key character typical of such coastal villages. The Sussex Inlet Town Centre DCP identifies the town focal point/market square as the open space area between the Newsagent and the Cinema centrally located within the main retail core. To function effectively, this area *requires sufficient pedestrian open space for people to congregate, sit, read, etc and provide a venue for the monthly markets.*

The inlet surrounds the village to the north and east. The shared pathway around the accompanying reserve is frequently utilised by residents and visitors alike. This area would be ideal for future public art installations or to accompany events such as the fishing festival. There are some small sculptures of birds on stumps at the end of Jacobs Drive which are quite appropriate for the character of the community and environment.

Along the inlet reserve is a large quantity of memorial seating. One idea is to encourage the community to memorialise loved ones through funding small sculptures or trees in the reserve rather than more seating.

### Themes

Local heritage and maritime themes are seen as the most appropriate. Public art could be low key, involving local artists and initiatives where possible.

### Locations

Public art doesn't need a dominant presence within the town centre. It could however serve to enhance the town focal point/market square between the Newsagent and the Cinema in the form of updated furniture, or a makeover of the raised brick plant beds (eg tiled mosaic) in an appropriate theme. Providing a point of interest in this location would assist in reinforcing a central hub for gathering and meeting.




A similar approach would also be relevant with any future community facility development such as the tourism centre and library proposal at the 'Old Bakers Site'.

The shared pathway and reserve around the inlet is another element that could benefit from regular interpretive installations as an emphasis to further encourage education, health and well being. This could take the form of temporary installations at each of the jetties for specific events, new park furniture and infrastructure, or permanent sculptures like the birds at the Jacobs Drive Jetty.

### Themes Summary

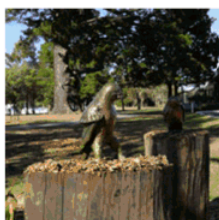
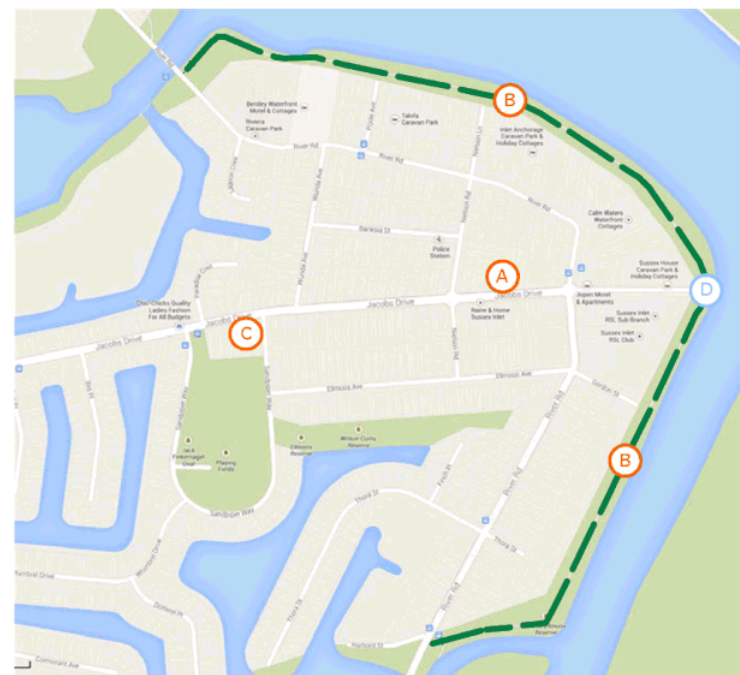
-  Marine Ecology & Protection
-  Natural Beauty
-  Local Heritage - Eilmoos family
-  Maritime - Boating & Fishing

### Legend

-  Proposed Locations
-  Existing Location
-  Art & Events Trail

### Notes

- A. Commercial Hub - Lions Peace Park
- B. Jacob Eilmoos Reserve
- C. 'Old Bakers' Tourism Centre & Library
- D. Jacobs Drive Jetty



## Themes and locations - Milton

### Analysis

Milton has a strong art representation in its community. The village has an iconic heritage character with significant rural, mountain, and sea views from its ridgeline spine. Milton town centre is widely known for its boutique retail, local & natural products, and cafe experience. Existing public art elements include traditional tile mosaic features within the streetscape paving, a mural at the town library courtyard, and eclectic installations such as hopscotch pavers and a novelty portrait mural that attracts visitors in the town's centre. With the established character, there is not a great need to for new public art to have a dominant presence.

The current *draft Town of Milton DCP* recognises Milton's rural, historic, village and community character. *'The future of Milton will see appropriate growth that retains this character, complements its history and heritage and brings opportunities for all ages.'*

The Public Domain Objectives in the DCP are to enhance the pedestrian amenity in the Town Centre Precinct with public art, signage and other sculptural elements to reinforce activity nodes in key areas. These nodal areas are strategically located at key pedestrian thoroughfares to create vibrant points interacting with active retail frontages. For example new tile mosaics in nodal areas could be a bolder and modern continuation of the mosaic features already located in parts of the streetscape.

### Themes

The nature of the public art could be complimentary to the existing rural and heritage character whilst also being of a more contemporary and eclectic nature that is aligned to the modern boutique cultural experience of the town centre. Public art should include local artists and community initiatives where possible.

### Locations

Within the public domain, "core activation areas" or "activity nodes" should be developed and highlighted through the use of public art in the form of mosaics, murals, installations and streetscape furniture. The locations have been identified in the recently prepared *draft Town of Milton DCP*.

### Themes Summary

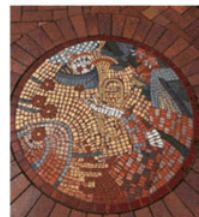
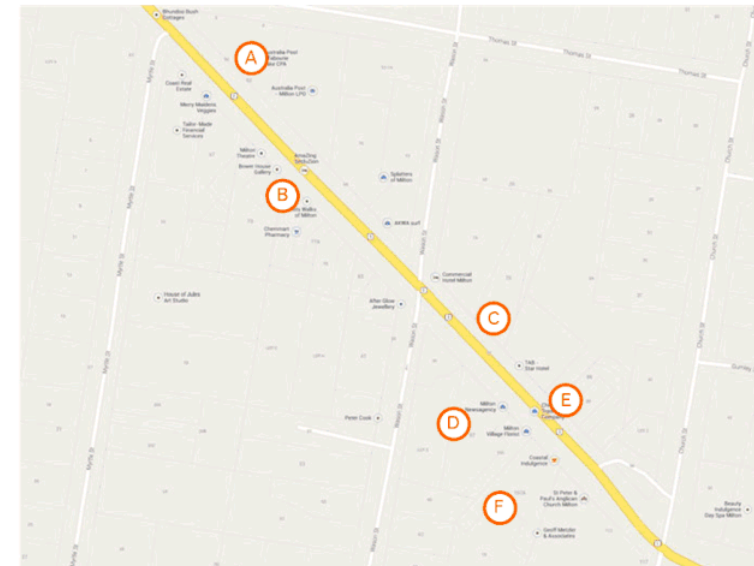
- ★ Contemporary Milton – boutique shopping, local and natural products, cafe culture
- 🌿 Rural and Coastal Connections
- 🏠 Historical Milton

### Legend

- Existing Locations to be Upgraded

### Notes

- A. Memorial Park
- B. Library Forecourt
- C. Central Information Hub
- D. Settlement Building Courtyard
- E. Pedestrian thoroughfare with future development
- F. Village Green



## Themes and locations - Ulladulla

### Analysis

The focus of the Ulladulla town centre should be the harbour. This has always been the industry centre for fishing, tourism and recreation. Traditionally, town development has not maximised its harbour connection, however recent upgrades into public infrastructure have begun to acknowledge a connection with the harbour through the walkway and foreshore projects. The current development of the Ulladulla Civic Centre will further enhance the 'Recreation and Special Activities Precinct'. Some public art has been included in the schemes, however there is opportunity to provide further public art amenity to reinforce the precincts emerging identity and link community use to the harbour by providing an interactive capacity for community participation, activities or events. This transformation could also include the industrial area around the southern breakwall. Ulladulla (and Nowra) are seen as the priority sites for public art covered in this document.

Ulladulla has two cultural walking trails (One Track for All & Coomee Nulunga Cultural Trail) featuring indigenous themed sculpture, carvings and paintings. This reinforces the need for a more substantial public art representation in the Ulladulla CBD area. The Ulladulla Town Centre and Harbour Review DCP states that development within the Recreation and Special Activities Precinct should "Maintain the relationship of the Civic precinct with the Ulladulla Harbour and reinforce the sense of arrival to the Town Centre. In this regard: streetscape and landscape works are to reinforce the maritime character of Ulladulla".

Public art could be incorporated into new or existing events that utilise the harbour precinct such as 'the blessing of the fleet'. New events may include moonlight cinema or light projections on the breakwall for example.

### Themes

Traditional 'themes' that could inform public art in Ulladulla relate to it's history, maritime, indigenous culture, fishing industry and fossils.

Ulladulla has a strong youth culture. It is important that public art reflects and engages with this demographic - this could include future outdoor amenities and activities associated with the new civic centre and any long term development of the harbour precinct.

### Locations

Locations include public art markers to define and visually link the harbour precinct, along with locating opportunity areas for events, activities, and interaction. This could extend through to Rotary Park in the north.

There is also an opportunity for interpretive elements to be incorporated into public infrastructure such as paths or furniture around the harbour. This could depict, for example, maritime themes or geological history.

### Themes Summary

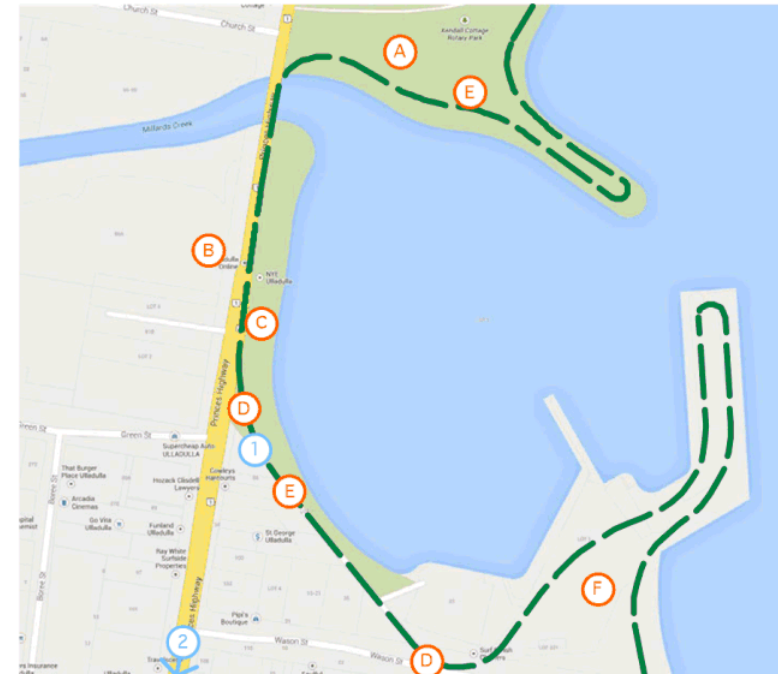
- ★ Contemporary Ulladulla - Youth Culture & Coastal Lifestyle
- ◆ Fishing Industry
- Indigenous Culture
- ⚓ Maritime
- 🔍 Fossils

### Legend

- Proposed Locations
- Existing Location
- Art Walk or Events

### Notes

- A. Rotary Park
- B. Civic Centre
- C. Ulladulla Foreshore
- D. Ulladulla Walkway Entry
- E. Foreshore Walk
- F. Harbour Precinct
- 1. Completed Walkway
- 2. Highway Gateway Sculptures





## Best Practice - Digital Projections

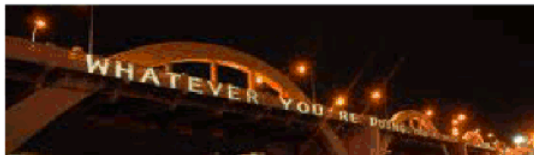
### William Jolly Bridge Creative Lighting Project Brisbane City Council, 2009 - Present

The William Jolly Bridge Creative Lighting Project uses this iconic Brisbane bridge to deliver digital artworks for Brisbane city. The light projection is a permanent installation using two lighthouses specifically built to project images onto the arches of the bridge.

The project was part of 'Connecting Brisbane' - a \$2 million joint project between Brisbane City Council and the State Government celebrating the 150th anniversary of Queensland's separation from NSW and Brisbane's declaration as a municipality. It also forms part of the Council's City Centre Master Plan - a 20 year plan for the revitalisation of the city centre.

Council works closely with the Museum of Brisbane and the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) to facilitate the long term delivery and management of the initiative. Internationally renowned projection artist Ian de Gruchy delivered the artistic direction and creative elements of the project.

The bridge is lit for important cultural events and celebrations and projects images from Brisbane's past, present and future.



### City Evolutions on Watt St City of Newcastle, 2013

In June 2013, the City of Newcastle launched a landmark contemporary art project, featuring a series of interactive digital projections along Newcastle's oldest street, Watt Street. City Evolutions is part of efforts by Newcastle Council to revitalise the city's East End and is running for one year.

City Evolutions is funded by the Department of Energy, Resources and Tourism under T-QUAL grants, the Office of Environment and Heritage, The City of Newcastle, The University of Newcastle and Newcastle NOW.

Esem Projects, a public design practice, were commissioned to develop four installations and have established a program of community engagement, social media and digital publishing platforms to enable Novocastrians past and present to get involved. The installations are driven by intensive historical research, interaction design methodologies and community engagement programs.



### North Bombo Headland Quarry Projections Craig Walsh: Digital Odyssey, A Museum of Contemporary Touring Project Kiama, 2010

Internationally regarded artist Craig Walsh travelled around Australia in 2010-2011 in a mobile living and working environment developing and presenting temporary large scale public projection works that were responsive to regional history, local stories and the surrounding landscape.

In November 2010, he worked closely with the Boolarng Nangamal Aboriginal Arts & Cultural Studio in Gerringong to produce still and video footage which was projected onto the north Bombo headlands disused quarry sight. He filmed and photographed the Studio's artists, friends and family who were painted in traditional white clay. The projections featured local resident Julie Freeman sharing the story of Kiama which had been passed on verbally from generation to generation within her family as well as portraits of local artists, artworks and poems. It also displayed a 3D animation of an eel, inspired by local Aboriginal stories describing the eel as the creator of some of the unique rock formations along the nearby coast.

To view video footage of Julie Freeman's story of Kiama visit:  
<http://digitalodysseyblog.wordpress.com/2010/11/>



## Best Practice - Laneways

Laneway Revitalisation Strategy  
City Of Sydney, 2010

As part of the City of Sydney's Laneway Revitalisation Strategy, Council has completed groundwork, site-specific furniture, art installations, lighting and historical markers at Angel Place and Chinatown.

These works have been completed under the direction of landscape architects Aspect Studios.

A focus of the upgrade is the public art installation *Forgotten Songs* by Michael Thomas Hill, created for the Laneways by George exhibition in 2010, and now a permanent fixture in Angel Place. The installation includes 186 bird cages suspended on a system of cables above Angel Place. The cages house a sound system which plays the calls of birds which would have inhabited the Sydney CBD prior to the arrival of the first fleet.

At Chinatown, the previously underutilised thoroughfare of Kimber Lane includes the 'Between Two Worlds' art installation by artist Jason Wing, which features painted coloured motifs on the walls and ground, granite etching as well as a series of site specific catenary lighting elements. The artwork references the site's history and current community.



## Best Practice - Contemporary Indigenous

Redfern Park  
City Of Sydney, 2008

The children's playground was part of a 19 million dollar Redfern Park upgrade. The brief was to reinvigorate Redfern Park, making it an attractive destination for families by providing inviting and interactive play opportunities.

Indigenous artist Fiona Foley was commissioned through Art Consultants UAP to create an intuitive playscape for the under 7 age group. The artist gathered her reference material from walks throughout the local area, themeing the play elements around native flora. The intention is to stimulate the imagination and senses as much as provide tangible cues to structured play activity.

The artworks aims to embed knowledge and communicate history with the three significant artworks in within the site. Cast stainless steel and bronze lotus flowers emerge from the ground line representing the strength of a colonised culture to survive. Oversized seed pods scattered amongst ancient fig trees provide intuitive play opportunities for young children. The fig played an important part in the Aboriginal diet. For older children, Foley designs a lyrical playscape telling the story of possum hunting.

Foley's Redfern Park installations also recognise the work of local artist and community elder, Euphemia Bostock.





## Best Practice - Community

### Everything Except Walk City Of Darebin Victoria, 2013

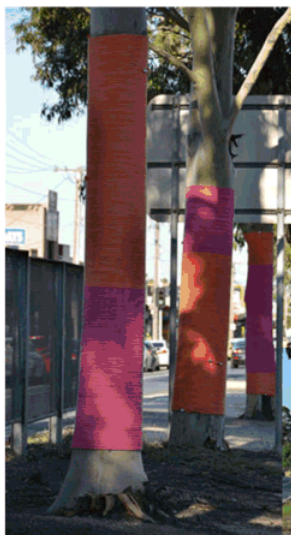
In March 2013, Pollen Studio was invited by the City of Darebin to produce a large-scale site installation for the inaugural True North Festival in Reservoir.

Thirty street trees were wrapped overnight with 4.5km's of hand-dyed rope to provide an instant impact on the first day of the festival. Each tree was wrapped with a unique banded code that related a particular statistic from the local community. A series of encoded calling cards were handed out throughout the festival, so that people could match the code to each tree. This became a game of collecting, matching, and most of all conversing with the trees.

Fifteen blue and green tree wraps and fifteen pink and orange tree wraps represented fifteen key statistical breakdowns of the Reservoir community including cultural background and language, household make-up, local services accessed, employment and income.

A significant challenge faced was the physical (and therefore social) divide of east and west Reservoir by a series of major roads, a railway station and a railway line.

The cards then became agents for further exploration of the project, encouraging participants to move out into the local landscape to explore, compare and connect with the corresponding trees, and to cross over the east/west divide.



### Art in the Heart of Lismore Project Lismore City Council, 2010 - Present

Art in the Heart is a project which aims to place creative workers from the Northern Rivers NSW in empty shops and other premises in the Lismore CBD in order to activate these spaces and encourage more life in the city centre.

This project operates in a similar way to other art in empty space programmes such as Renew Newcastle, Pop Up Parramatta, and The Rocks Pop Up Project.

The Art in the Heart project is a partnership between Arts NSW and the Lismore City Council city centre revitalisation program, and is the recipient of Arts NSW Creative Enterprise Hub funding. The project is governed by the 7-member Art in the Heart Taskforce.

The Lismore Spinners & Weavers Inc were the first group to benefit from this project. The group occupied a former cafe adjacent to the Lismore Regional Gallery for a 10 week period. During this residency, their exhibition generated over \$3000 in sales.



### Animals with Attitude Gold Coast Sculpture Trail Gold Coast City Council, 2013

For nine weeks in April 2013, large koala sculptures were displayed on the Gold Coast showcasing the wealth of artistic local and national talent.

This inaugural event aimed to raise awareness of the plight of the Koala and raise valuable funds for the Currumbin Wildlife Hospital Foundation. John Cox's Creative Workshop Pty Ltd designed, sculpted & manufactured 21 Koalas and helped to co-ordinate this public art project for which artists were commissioned to design the Koalas.

The sculpture trail, spanned the length of the Gold Coast and aimed to excite, inspire and encourage public exploration of the city.

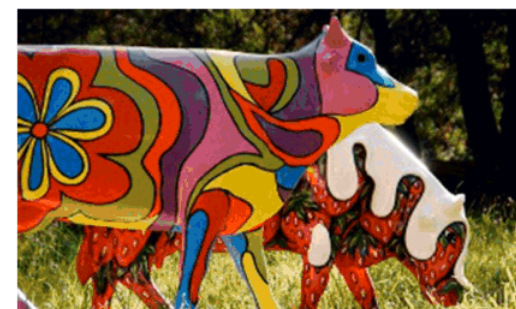
### MoovingArt Shepparton Greater Shepparton City Council, 2002 - Present

MoovingArt is a long running and evolving public art initiative.

Scattered across Greater Shepparton's parks, gardens, riverbanks and public spaces are an array of colourful, ever changing fibreglass cows that make up the MoovingArt Herd.

MoovingArt is an interactive event that allows the public to touch and feel the cows. Designs are being created with durability and public safety concerns in mind. It is a mobile, interactive public art exhibition that features life-sized three-dimensional cow sculptures.

Artists involved include local indigenous artists as well as local community groups and charities such as GV Disability Services.



## Best Practice - Art Trail

Mackay Bluewater Trail  
Mackay Regional Council, 2009

The Mackay Bluewater trail is a 19 kilometre 'ring of activity' around the city centre. The trail is a key component of Mackay Council's Bluewater Activation Strategy, which looks to develop a range of activities along the riverfront and inner city beachfront through leisure opportunities and selective commercial and residential projects. The inclusion of a series of landmark public artworks forms a significant part of the trail.

Artist Fiona Foley and Urban Art Projects collaborated to produce the 6 artworks which draw on the site's historical, cultural and natural context. The site offers a rich history of indigenous presence, marine habitats and a large number of sugar cane plantations dating from the colonial era.

Foley's research and discussions with local communities in the Mackay region, the Indigenous Yuibera people and the Mackay-based South Sea Islander communities, inform and infiltrate these works.

### 1. MANGROVE CAP

The mangrove cap is a large-scale version of a tiny found object from the surrounding natural environment. The 9.5m high weathered steel Mangrove Cap is illuminated from within by two rings of solar powered blue LEDs. Echoing the stars of the night sky under which the artwork stands, pinpricks of light stream through holes in the upper pod.

### 2. YUWI text work

'YUWI' is the name of Mackay's indigenous people. The iconic red letters are intended to build upon and support the recognition of indigenous culture in Mackay's urban environment. A cast bronze ring set into the concrete in front of the word references a bora ring, traditionally a site of initiation in indigenous culture.

### 3. FISH BONES

The stylised fish bone forms are designed to connect symbolically with the river edge and reference local aquaculture. One of the forms is highlighted with a red mosaic, and another lies flat and can serve as a seating or play element.

### 4. SHIELDS

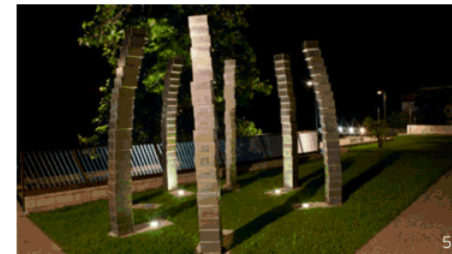
These permanent ground plane works draw reference to the traditional shield designs of the local Yuibera people. The Shields are intended to raise awareness of the site's history for contemporary visitors.

### 5. SUGAR CUBES

Sugar Cubes references the sugar farming and South Sea Island heritage of the Mackay region. Seven sculptural steel elements represent stacks of sugar cubes. Each cube is inscribed on the outer side with the name and dates of marine vessels that brought South Sea Islanders to Mackay to work on cane plantations. The inner side is inscribed with names of the labourers themselves, and fingerprints of their descendants who were living in Mackay at the time of installation.

### 6. BLACK BIRDS

This suspended work depicts local birds and wildlife. The lifelike silhouetted forms cast a strong shadow that creates a second layer to the artwork and gives a sense of the birds' constant watchful presence.





## Best Practice - General





## Best Practice - General





## Best Practice - General





## Best Practice - General



## Implementation Plan

The following prioritises and provides a brief methodology for delivering public art to the nominated sites.

PRIORITY	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
<b>HIGH</b>		
NOWRA	Art Trail	Artwork to be incorporated as a key component in future open space strategies and development initiatives throughout the designated loop.
	Vibrant Spaces for Community Events	Incorporate artwork as a component of future open space upgrades particularly relating to Greys Beach and the River Promenade. Future events and usage to be established in partnership with the tourism and events sections of Council.
	Streetscapes and Activation of Urban Spaces	Artwork to be incorporated as a component of future urban streetscape development and upgrades particularly relating to the CBD Master Plan recommendations.
	Revitalisation of Laneways	Council to encourage local street art, music and food events and installations in the nominated laneways
	Sensory Art Garden	To be incorporated in association with future development in the medical precinct.
	Activation of Unused Building Spaces	Council to investigate implementing a 'Pop up' style art gallery and studio strategy.
ULLADULLA	Harbour Foreshore	Incorporate artwork as a component of open space development and upgrades. New events and usage to be established in partnership with the tourism and events sections of Council.
	Civic Precinct Development	Artwork to be incorporated as a component of open space development and upgrades, particularly relating to the CBD Master Plan recommendations. New events and usage to be established in partnership with the tourism and events sections of Council
	Art Trail	Incorporate artwork as a key component in future open space strategies and development initiatives along the designated route.
	Rotary Park	Artwork to be incorporated as a component of future open space upgrades.
<b>LOW</b>		
BERRY	Enhancement of Broughton Place	Artwork to be incorporated as a component of future streetscape development and upgrades.
	Berry Bypass	Incorporate artwork as a component of future public realm development and upgrades associated with the Bypass construction. This may include playgrounds, shelters and furniture, and streetscape upgrades.
	Art Trail	Artwork to be incorporated as a component of future development initiatives along the designated route, including an installation at the Berry Railway Station
HUSKISSON & VINCENTIA	Voyager Park Enhancement	Incorporate artwork as a component of open space development and upgrades, particularly relating to the Voyager Park Master Plan. New events and usage to be established in partnership with the tourism and events sections of Council.
	North White Sands Park Enhancement	Investigate potential of a 'lookout' type installation, which frames and identifies key vistas and locations around the bay.
	Vincentia Town Centre	Artwork to be incorporated as a component of future development and upgrades.
	Art and Events Trail	Artwork to be incorporated as a component in future development initiatives throughout the designated route. Locations of future events and type to be established in partnership with the tourism and events sections of Council.
MILTON	Town Centre Activity Nodes	Incorporate artwork as a component of future open space upgrades particularly relating to Greys Beach and the River Promenade.
SUSSEX INLET	Enhancement of Commercial Hub	Artwork to be incorporated as a component of future development and upgrades.
	Art and Events Trail	Artwork to be incorporated as a component in future development initiatives throughout the designated route. Locations of future events and type to be established in partnership with the tourism and events sections of Council.
	'Old Bakers Site' Community Facility Development	Artwork to be incorporated as a component of any future development and upgrades.

## AB22.8 Shoalhaven Regional Gallery - Update - November, December, January 2021/2022

HPERM Ref: D22/63964

Department: Arts & Culture

Approver: Jane Lewis, Director - City Lifestyles

### Reason for Report

To inform the Shoalhaven Arts Board of the activities and events that have occurred at Shoalhaven Regional Gallery for the period of November, December, and January 2021/2022.

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

That the Shoalhaven Arts Board receive the Regional Gallery report for information.

### Options

1. Receive the report for information.

Implications: The Shoalhaven Arts Board will be informed of the activities and achievements of Shoalhaven Regional Gallery

2. Request more information.

Implications: Unknown

### Background

Shoalhaven Regional Gallery has delivered a wide range of exhibition and activities in the period from November 2021 -January 2022.

### Exhibitions

Our final week of the Archibald Prize 2020 Regional Tour finished up on 6 November 2021. The physical visitation count from the date of reopening (12 October) until the end of the exhibition period was 2976 visitors. We received excellent feedback from the public and an increase in donations during this period.

Visitor comments include:

*'Wonderful to be able to view top exhibition (The Archibald) Without crowds and free. Will definitely be coming back.'*

*'Fantastic curation.'*

*'Thankyou'*

*'Great staff'*

Running in unison with the Archibald Prize 202 Regional Tour, the North Gallery displayed the finalists entered in the Young Archie Competition. Over 30 portraits were displayed by young Shoalhaven artists. The prize winners were announced via social media and a small COVID safe prize giving afternoon tea was held in the Gallery Courtyard on Saturday



November 6<sup>th</sup>. Nowra ANZ Branch Manager Aleah Morris presented the prizes, with ANZ kindly supplying the prizes. Also in attendance was Art Gallery of NSW representative, Heather Tralagga and Archibald Prize 2020 finalist Tianli Zu.



On 20 November 2021 we opened two new shows, focusing both on an oceanic theme. In the Main, Foyer and Access Gallery was the exhibition *Sea Gods* by Ashely Jones-Evans. This exhibition held more than 40 portraits of Australian surfing identities, shot between 1997 and 1999 for the book *Sea Gods*.

In the East Gallery the film *The Reef* was played on a loop. A collaboration between Richard Tognetti, the Australian Chamber Orchestra and a collection of remarkable artists. The film is an extraordinary merging of music and film, delving into the links between surfing, the ocean, landscape and music. Visitors had the opportunity to sit and enjoy the film for as little or as long as they pleased.

Visitor comments include:

*'Exquisite photos- fabulous. Tognetti video is excellent'*

*'Love the two exhibitions together!'*

*'Beautiful exhibition & gallery shop'*

*'Again, stunning photography'*

*'Wonderful clarity & consistency'*

## Public Programs

Due to the Public Health Order restrictions still in place post lockdown, Art After School classes were cancelled for Term 4. Artways ran, focusing on Printmaking for 4 weeks delivered by our casual educator, Nicole Ison. The class had 9 attendees.

During the Summer school holidays, we delivered 5 holiday art workshops for children aged 3-16 years old. Nearly all classes were at capacity for attendance. Again, all workshops were delivered in a COVID safe manner in accordance with PHO.

We also delivered a public art activation workshop at Stocklands Nowra, where people could book a time to sit and colour and decorate leaves for the upcoming *Regenerate* exhibition. Casual educator Penny Craig led the workshops over 5 days from 16<sup>th</sup> January to 20<sup>th</sup> January.



### Grant Funded Projects

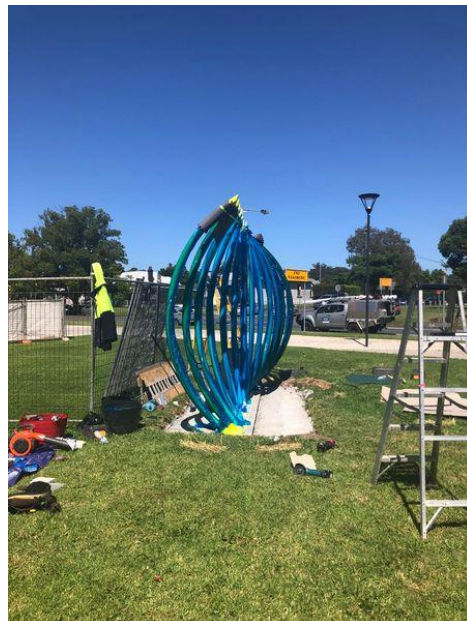
We continue to apply for and receive funding for a range of activities.

Create NSW have awarded funding for a freestanding modular wall system for the Gallery through their Creative Capital Program. The wall system will improve our capacity to bring large scale shows to the Shoalhaven and support increased engagement in the arts within the community.

The final component of the forecourt upgrade, funded through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program (Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications), was delayed until the end of February. The final stage includes the installation of planter boxes and seats in the forecourt to create a welcoming space that encourages community members to engage with the gallery and enjoy green space in the CBD.

The **Streets as Shared Spaces** public art project (funded through Dept of Planning and Environment) has now had one component delivered with the installation of the Bomaderry to Nowra Art walk. A collection of 13 large and small photo decals by celebrated artist Tamara Dean lead people on a walk of discovery and exploration between Bomaderry and Nowra. The images are positioned in a variety of locations along the walk, some underfoot, some on walls, to encourage viewers to discover delights and consider the environment underfoot.

Part of the Forecourt and public artwork at Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre has been delivered with the installation of Greer Taylor's, 'phases' artwork.



The **Regional Cultural Fund Digitisation Project** (funded by Create NSW through the Regional Cultural Fund Digitisation round) continues to be delivered with consultants pivoting to digital delivery where possible. Museums have begun to deliver articles for digitisation and inclusion in the 'Collections and Stories' project being delivered by Museums and Galleries NSW. Photography of the articles for digitisation will start in February.

Current Grant submissions awaiting determination include:

- 'Plant your Feet' – a major solo exhibition by Glenn Barkley – funding sought from Create NSW through their Local Govt Authority Project round – submitted Jan 2022
- 'Jack's Back' – a framework for the Lake Tabourie Museum Collection – funding sought from Create NSW through their Local Govt Authority Project round – submitted Jan 2022
- 'Create Stay Play – Developing a Creative Economy Strategy for the Shoalhaven' – funding sought from the Building Better Regions Fund Community Investment Stream – submitted Feb 2022
- 'A new welcome – enhancing the entrance at Lake Tabourie Museum' – funding sought from the Culture, Heritage, Arts Regional Tourism fund. – submitted Feb 2022
- 'Blurring Boundaries – exhibition research and development by Tianli Zu in partnership with Shoalhaven Regional Gallery' – funding sought from the Australia Council Project round – submitted Feb 2022

### Award Nominations

Shoalhaven Regional Gallery was a finalist in three categories for the IMAGInE awards run by Museums and Galleries NSW. We were delighted to receive a highly commended IMAGInE Award for our 2020 exhibition 'the TERRA within!'



## Current / Coming up

We have Peter Sharp's exhibition *Accidental Tourist* in the Main Gallery until 26<sup>th</sup> of March. Across February we exhibited Kanun Onsel's *Illusions Abroad* in the Foyer Gallery, Louisa Chircop's *Nebuchadnezzar Tree* in the Access Gallery and our public program exhibition, *Regenerate* in the East Gallery.

From 5<sup>th</sup> of March until 26th March, the Foyer, Access and East Gallery will display the New Horizons exhibition which showcases 2021 HSC Visual Arts from across the Shoalhaven, New Horizons presents exciting, innovative and high-quality art in diverse mediums.



AB22.8

## AB22.9 Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Update

**HPERM Ref:** D22/70229

**Department:** Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre  
**Approver:** Jane Lewis, Director - City Lifestyles

### Reason for Report

To inform the Shoalhaven Arts Board of recent and future programming, events and community engagement activities at the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre.

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

That Shoalhaven Arts Board receives the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre report for information.

### Options

1. Receive the report for information

Implications: The Shoalhaven Arts Board members are kept updated and apprised of programming, events and community engagement activities at the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre.

2. Request for more information

Implications: Unknown

### Background

The Centre is currently closed for essential maintenance works, including the installation of a fire suppression system. Works began in January 2022, and the Centre is due to re-open in the second week of April 2022. Prior to the works the Centre has undergone a series of disruptions over the past two years largely imposed by COVID-19 pandemic public health orders.

### 2022 Seasons

Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre launched its 2022 Morning Matinee and Love It Live seasons in December 2021.

Approximately 400 people attended the Love it Live Launch with ABC Illawarra Radio personality Nick Reinberger as MC. In addition to announcing the Season of 14 productions, including dance, children's theatre, fine music, contemporary music, drama, and cabaret, there were also performances by Catherine Alcorn from the production of 30 Something. Two performers from Dance Makers' Collective performed an excerpt from The Rivoli, and Nowra-based independent singer songwriter Paul Greene performed at the post-launch celebration.

The launches of both the Love it Live 2022 Season and the 2022 Morning Matinee Season were well received.



AB22.9





AB22.9



## Community Engagement

Community Engagement is embedded in the Entertainment Centre's 2022 Season by way of workshops, post-show opportunities to meet performers, literary discussions, and opportunities for community members to perform with professional artists.

Dance Makers Collective's production *The Rivoli*, being performed at Ulladulla Civic Centre and Kangaroo Valley Hall in late March, will feature the Shoalhaven's Spencer Family Band, plus performers from local dance schools.

The work is a celebration of social life, before social media, paying homage to partner dancing. The company made several trips to the Shoalhaven in February to interview people about their dance hall days. Some of these interviews will be woven into the soundscape of the production.



AB22.9

During the April school holidays, in connection with performances of *The Alphabet of Awesome Science*, the Entertainment Centre will offer workshops exploring science and language themes encompassed in the show.

In May, there will be a variety of community engagement opportunities related to *shake + stir*'s production of the gothic classic *Jane Eyre*. These will include a literary discussion with director Michael Fitcher along with co-adaptor and performer Nelle Lee.

The company will be in residence at the Entertainment Centre as they remount the production, with the Shoalhaven performance being the first on *shake+stir*'s national tour. During this week there will also be an opportunity for members of the community to attend an open dress/technical rehearsal.

## Connectivity Connections Celebration

The Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre forecourt is being transformed following The City Lifestyles team's success in winning an *NSW Government Planning Industry & Environment Department Streets As Shared Spaces* grant of almost \$350,000.

*Streets As Shared Spaces* was designed to support councils to test and pilot new and innovative ideas for streets as safe, shared public spaces. The intention was to fund strategic pilots which would allow pedestrians to maintain physical distancing requirements safely, support jobs and boost business confidence in response to the COVID pandemic.

The City Lifestyles Creativity Connection is a project that brings community together to connect and celebrate resilience, visual and performing artists, and improve the CBD areas of Bomaderry and Nowra.

The installation of Shoalhaven artist Greer Taylor's 4m high sculpture *phases* is part of the forecourt activation, which also includes bench seats, curved seating, large pots with advanced trees, and umbrellas with table settings to create an al fresco option for patrons.

A new portable stage and marquee, to support public performances and ceremonies, on the new look forecourt, have also been purchased.

The Streets As Shared Spaces activation will be tested and evaluated on Saturday, March 19, from 12pm-3pm with a free community event, including a *Live and Local Shoalhaven - City of Gigs* micro-festival – with some of the region's up-and-coming musicians and singers taking the stage.

The community will be invited to enjoy the new-look forecourt, bring a picnic, enjoy the music, play outdoor games, and participate in free arts activities.

## Grants update

Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre has lodged a *Building Better Regions Fund* grant application seeking to leverage the pledged investment from the Shoalhaven Arts Board and Shoalhaven City Council to help fund the Creative Development of the Alana Valentine play *The Anti-Nuclear Family*.

The family saga, which uses an entertaining theatrical presentation to chronicle and celebrate the success of Shoalhaven based activists to stop the building of a nuclear power station on the end of the Booderee Peninsula in 1971, is based on interviews with still living activists from that time and soon after.

Ms Valentine's play was funded by the Shoalhaven Arts Board's one-off COVID Response Performing Arts Grant and was commissioned by the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre.

The Entertainment Centre was also successful in its application for \$30,000 from the *Create New South Wales Creative Capital – Minor Works and Equipment Round One* application to purchase live streaming equipment to meet the increasing number of requests for this form of community engagement.

The grant will allow the purchase of three cameras and associated equipment to provide a live-streaming option. The system will be mobile allowing live streaming from all performance spaces and rooms at the venue.

## Professional Affiliations and Professional Development

The Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Manager Karen Patterson continues as Arts on Tour Deputy Chair; and continues as an executive member of the New South Wales and Performing Arts Centres Association.

## AB22.10 Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Acquisitions

**HPERM Ref:** D22/71349

**Department:** Arts & Culture

**Approver:** Jane Lewis, Director - City Lifestyles

**Attachments:** 1. Shoalhaven City Art Collection - Acquisition and Management Policy [↓](#)  
2. Michelle Cawthorn - List of possible donations - City Art Collection - February 2022 [↓](#)

### Reason for Report

To inform the Arts Board of the offers of donation to the City Art Collection received by Council, and the recommendations of the Acquisition Subcommittee

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

That

1. The offer of donation through the Cultural Gifts program of the work *Bleak Milestones* by Glenn Barkley is accepted
2. That the offer of donation through the Cultural Gifts program of the work *A Chorus Line: Neville* by Michelle Cawthorn is accepted
3. That the offer of donation through the Cultural Gifts program of the works *Road Hazard, Conjola and Arthur's Rocks, Bundanon* by Peter Sharp is accepted
4. That the offer of donation through the Cultural Gifts program of the work *Three Sisters* by Geoff La Gerche is declined
5. That the offer of donation of the untitled work by Fred Leist is accepted
6. That the offer of donation through the Cultural Gifts program of the work *Apparition of the Mythmaker* by Graham Blondel is accepted.

### Options

1. Accept the Recommendation

Implications: The Shoalhaven City Art Collection will continue to grow based on the Policy

2. Amend the Recommendation

Implications: works may enter the Collection that fall outside of the Policy.

3. Reject the Recommendation

Implications: Potential for reputational damage to the City Art Collection as artists whose work fits the collecting policy are refused in their offers of donation without due cause.

AB22.10



## Background

Shoalhaven City Council have been offered a number of works for the City Art Collection as detailed below. The Acquisition subcommittee consisting of Alison Chaim, Stephen Buzacott and independent expert Boe-Lin Bastian (Curator, Bundanon Trust) provided their recommendations on the gifts. The advice was mixed, and where there was a difference of opinion it is noted in the report.

### 1. Offer of work through the Cultural Gift program by Glenn Barkley

Barkley is an artist of significant standing in Australia, with a reputation both as an artist and curator. He grew up in the Shoalhaven and continues to have a strong connection to the region. He works in contemporary ceramic sculptures, with pieces that speak to the history of pottery and studio ceramics through an arts lens – playing with form and function, critiquing historical ideals and questioning the very nature of ceramics as functional objects.

*Bleak Milestones* was created in 2020 in response to the Black Summer Fires. Barkley produced a series of works that were exhibited in the Wonder + Dread exhibition at Shoalhaven Regional Gallery, and has subsequently offered this work for the collection.

The Shoalhaven Arts Board have already acquired works by Tim Georgeson that respond to the fires, this work complements those pieces as another artistic response to the significant events of 2019/2020.

The proposed acquisition meets the criteria of the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection under section 3.1.6 under the following considerations:

- Significance of artist
- Local Significance
- Historical / cultural value
- Cost and/or value for money
- Advantageous opportunities

The Acquisition Subcommittee were all in agreement that this was a work that should be accepted into the collection.



Glenn Barkley, *Bleak Milestones*, 2020.  
Earthenware, 52x34cm

### 2. Offer of work through the Cultural Gift program by Michelle Cawthorn

Michelle Cawthorn is a multidisciplinary artist who explores memory and personal experience with her distinctive mark making. Cawthorn has a number of prizes and has



been a finalist in the Sulman Prize. She spent much of her childhood in Nowra and has *maintained* a strong connection to the Shoalhaven throughout her life.

In 2021 Cawthorn exhibited at Shoalhaven Regional Gallery. Songbird explored her connection to place through birdsong and the strong aural memories associated with birds from her homes linked to the Shoalhaven River and the Hastings River.

*Works* from the exhibition are being offered to the Shoalhaven City Art Collection through the Cultural Gifts program. The City Art collection already holds [two works](#) by Cawthorn collected following the Jamberoo Mountain Road exhibition in 2018.

*Michelle* has offered two works, one large and one small. There are several large works that a piece can be selected from. The full listing is attached to this report.

The *proposed* acquisition meets the criteria of the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection under section 3.1.6 under the following considerations:

- Significance of artist
- Local Significance
- Cost and/or value for money
- Advantageous opportunities

The subcommittee were split on this offer. There are already a couple of small works by Cawthorn in the collection, one member noted that the small work only would sit well alongside the other two pieces, one was undecided and the third noted that the donation should be accepted with the large work *Gypsy* alongside the smaller work *A Chorus Line: Neville*.

It is recommended that *A Chorus Line: Neville* be acquired for the collection.



A Chorus Line: Neville 2021  
Collage and acrylic on Hahnemuhle paper  
39x32cm

### 3. Offer of work through the Cultural Gift program by Peter Sharp

Peter Sharp is a Sydney based artist who explores the landscape of Australia through abstract works inspired by the small details and textures often missed in traditional landscape works. He has an extensive exhibition history, is a highly respected teacher through UNSW and has been a finalist in the Wynne and Sulman prizes.

Shoalhaven Regional Gallery are currently hosting an exhibition of works by Sharp as part of a touring show from Manly Art Gallery and Museum. *Accidental Tourist* explores the plein air works that Sharp creates when travelling throughout Australia, works that

often inform the larger abstract works that are developed in his studio. Sharp is offering 2 or 3 works from the exhibition to the City Art Collection through the Cultural Gifts program. The Shoalhaven City Art Collection already has [two works](#) by Sharp which were acquired following the Jamberoo Mountain Road exhibition in 2018



Based on conversations with Sharp the following works are suitable for consideration for acquisition. The Shoalhaven Arts Board will need to decide which works from the below table are acquired (2 or 3).

The proposed acquisition meets the criteria of the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection under section 3.1.6 under the following considerations:

- Significance of artist
- Local Significance
- Cost and/or value for money
- Advantageous opportunities

The acquisition committee were split on this offer, it was noted that the work *Road Hazard, Conjola* is another strong response to the 2019/2020 fires, and that the works of the Shoalhaven region were closely aligned to the Collection. The number of landscapes already in the collection was noted, as was the fact that Sharp is better known for the abstract works (like those already in the collection) and that these works were not part of his core practice.

It is recommended that *Road Hazard, Conjola* and *Arthur's Rocks* be acquired for the collection.

	<p><i>Road Hazard, Conjola</i> 2020 Acrylic on board, 23 x 25 cm</p> <p>Painted on the first visit Sharp took to Conjola following the Black Summer Fires. Sharp has holidayed at Conjola annually and speaks of the challenge of returning to the region shortly after the fires went through. He felt he had to stop the car and record some of what he was witnessing on that trip.</p>
	<p><i>Arthur's Rocks, Bundanon</i>, 2022 acrylic on board, 21 x 29 cm</p> <p>This work was created specifically for the showing of <i>Accidental Tourist</i> at Shoalhaven Regional Gallery. Sharp spent a day at Bundanon, in the weeks before the show was hung, wanting to get some local content into the show and reflect on the impact of Boyd and his gift of Bundanon on the Australian arts scene.</p>

#### 4. Offer of work through the Cultural Gift Program by Dr Kingsbury – *Three Sisters* by Geoff La Gerche

La Gerche was born in Victoria and studied at the Caulfield Institute of Technology. He has exhibited extensively, has been a finalist in the Archibald Prize twice and is well known for his photo realism and large portrait works. His works are held in public and

private collections including the Art Gallery of NSW, the Art Gallery of WA and regional galleries including Benalla Art Gallery and NERAM.

The work is being offered for donation through the Cultural Gifts program by the current owner Dr Peter Kingsbury of Victoria. Dr Kingsbury is looking for a suitable regional collection to house the work and Shoalhaven has been approached based on a recommendation by Brett Adlington, CEO Museums and Galleries NSW, as the work is an impressive landscape and sits well alongside similar works by Leonard Long and Arthur Boyd.

The work is titled 'Three Sisters' and has also been titled 'Blue Mountains' when sold at auction by Leonard Joel Auctions. Dr Kingsbury believes the landscape within the work is Pulpit Point as viewed from Govetts Leap.

The proposed acquisition meets the criteria of the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection under section 3.1.6 under the following considerations:

- Significance of artist
- Cost and/or value for money
- Advantageous opportunities

This work was seen to have little relevance to the Shoalhaven collection and is not recommended for acquisition.



*Three Sisters (Blue Mountains)*, 1989  
Oil on Canvas 243 x 182 cm  
Unframed (on stretcher)

#### 5. Offer of donation of work by Fred Leist – offer made by Geoff Vercoe

Geoff Vercoe has contacted the gallery with the offer of a watercolour work by Fred Leist.

Leist was an official war artist during the First World War, studying at the Julian Ashton Art School, learning plein air painting from Ashton. He worked for the Bulletin and The Sydney Mail as well as The Graphic Magazine in London. He exhibited with the Royal Academy of Arts and worked for the War Office prior to his appointment as official war artist of the AIF. His works are held in numerous collections including the Art Gallery of NSW, the Australian War Memorial, Parliament House and private collection.

The work on offer is undated and untitled (although that information may be behind the current frame). The work was in the collection of Geoff Vercoe's grandmother – Leist's sister-in-law - and has been passed down through the family.

The work is stylistically similar to *Walking Home*, 1901 held in the Castlemaine Art Museum collection. It is likely that this work was produced around the turn of the century, and the Vercoe family history notes it as being of Balmoral Beach.

The proposed acquisition meets the criteria of the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection under section 3.1.6 under the following considerations:

- Significance of artist
- Historical and / or Cultural Value
- Cost and/or value for money
- Advantageous opportunities

The Acquisition subcommittee were split on this work, with two members unsure and one against. Commentary included Leist's status as an official war artist and the collection theme of 'War and Peace' for the City Art Collection. While this work is prior to his employment as an official war artist, it expands the Collection's representation of 19th/20th century artists, and does provide a link to Leist's later work as a war artist.

This work is recommended for acquisition.



## 6. Offer of Donation of work by Graham Blondel

Graham Blondel grew up in Nowra after being born in England. After graduating high school, he applied to art school despite not undertaking any previous art studies. He was accepted and has had a long and rewarding career in the arts, including being Head Teacher at the National Art School. He has exhibited extensively both within Australia and internationally and has works held in public and private collections.

Blondel is exhibiting a retrospective at Shoalhaven Regional Gallery in 2022 and has offered the work *Apparition of the Mythmaker* for donation to the collection. There are a number of works by Blondel already in the collection.

(<https://collection.shoalhavenregionalgallery.com.au/persons/111/graham-blondel>)

The proposed acquisition meets the criteria of the Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection under section 3.1.6 under the following considerations:

- Significance of artist
- Cost and/or value for money
- Advantageous opportunities



While the Acquisition Committee all noted the value of accepting this work, concerns were raised in regard to the size of it and the ability to manage storage, as well as the number of works by Blondel already in the collection. However most felt that it was recommended to acquire now while the offer has been made.

This work is recommended for acquisition.



*Apparition of the Mythmaker, 1987*  
Acrylic on canvas; 246 x 297cm

### Community Engagement

The City Art Collection is made available to the community through the online collection catalogue, through exhibitions at Shoalhaven Regional Gallery and through placement of suitable works in the Administration building, Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre foyer and other locations as suitable.

### Policy Implications

All offers of donation were reviewed against the Shoalhaven City Art Collection – Acquisition and Management policy.

### Financial Implications

All works in this report are offered for donation, either direct donation or through the Cultural Gifts Program. Where a work is offered through the Cultural Gifts program, Shoalhaven Regional Gallery pay for one of the valuations required and ask the donor to pay for the second. Valuations range in price from \$400 - \$600 per work of art, or per artist. The impact to the Arts and Culture budget for these works would be between \$1,600 - \$2,400.

Any futures costs to conserve the works is unknown at this stage. With the majority of the works recently produced, conservation or restoration work is unlikely in the immediate future. Works on paper are more susceptible to agents of deterioration, the Fred Leist work has not been viewed in person, so the condition is unknown and possible conservation work is not able to be judged until the work is acquired and assessed by an experienced conservator. Conservation of the collection is managed through the Regional Gallery budget with budget bids and / or grant applications for significant conservation projects that exceed the annual allocation.

All works will be housed in the existing Art Store at Shoalhaven Regional Gallery, so there are no additional costs for housing the works.



## Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection - Acquisition and Collection Management

*Policy Number: POL18/23*

*Adopted: 12/05/2009*

*Amended: 21/05/2013, 18/02/2014, 27/06/2017, 15/05/2018*

*Minute Number: MIN09.612, MIN13.522, MIN14.121, MIN17.586, MIN18.351*

*File: 18106E*

*Produced By: Finance Corporate & Community Services Group*

*Review Date: 1/12/2020*

AB22.10 - Attachment 1

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*Shoalhaven City Council Art Collection - Acquisition and Collection Management***1. PURPOSE**

The aim of this Policy is to establish administrative guidelines for a purposeful, consistent approach to acquisition of works and management of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection.

**2. STATEMENT**

The title shall be the “Shoalhaven City Art Collection – Acquisition and Collection Management Policy” and will be owned and managed by Shoalhaven City Council.

The Shoalhaven City Art Collection has been established to:

- Collect contemporary and historical works of visual art of demonstrable excellence by artists of significance with an emphasis on Australian artists and artists who have a connection to the Shoalhaven.
- Enrich, educate and inform the community of Shoalhaven City and its visitors in quality visual arts practice in Australia,
- Stimulate awareness and appreciation of the visual arts
- Strengthen an historical, social and locally relevant visual arts resource
- Establish a valuable collection of Regional significance and National interest

**2.1. Scope**

The Policy for acquiring art is to further develop the present strengths of the Collection, especially by seeking works that are of local, national and international significance. All artworks selected, acquired or commissioned by Council will contribute towards the development of a unique and distinctive collection and will give priority to acquiring works of art that satisfy one or more of the following scoping statements:

- 2.1.1. Relate to the Shoalhaven region, by Australian artists, particularly those who have a proven record of practice and development of their art form and who are represented in public collections or who have received recognition through awards and prizes
- 2.1.2. Build upon strengths and fill gaps in the current holdings of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection, as well as develop the representation of artists already held, in order to create a comprehensive, though specifically oriented, collection.
- 2.1.3. Artworks by local Indigenous artists, particularly those who have proven development and commitment to their art form or represent a significant group or time
- 2.1.4. To consider exceptions where the works are significant and relate to the current policy

**2.2. Background**

The Art Collection of Shoalhaven City Council has been gradually acquired over many years. The Shoalhaven Arts Board, after its inauguration in 1998, created Guidelines and a single Policy to inform acquisition. With the establishment of the Shoalhaven City Arts Centre in 2004, the Policy was amended to recognise the significant loans and donations added to the organisations collection.

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In early 2008, Shoalhaven City Council's Art Collection was divided into two (2) separate Collections to distinguish between a primary Collection with works of significance titled "The Shoalhaven Regional Gallery Collection" and a secondary Collection with works of significance titled "The City Collection" which included gifts to the City of lesser artistic, historic or monetary value (as identified at the time of the audit).

Collecting activities are often cost prohibitive, however, the Collection does not seek to cover a complete range of art. Following an audit of both Collections conducted by external art consultants in 2012/13, the objective to define the focus of the Collection has led to the merger of both Collections and determined six (6) primary collecting areas:

1. Australian Landscape
2. War and Peacekeeping
3. Australian Contemporary
4. Indigenous
5. Secular and Religious
6. Ceramics

### **3. PROVISIONS**

#### **3.1. General**

- 3.1.1. The Collection is managed by Council's Arts Manager.
- 3.1.2. Council will contribute an annual budget allocation for adequate maintenance and acquisition of new works in the Shoalhaven City Art Collection. Unexpended annual funding will be accumulated in a suspense reserve to form a growing resource.
- 3.1.3. All works shall be placed on a database and insured in accordance with Council's asset management plans and catalogued with details including title, image, size, and medium, artist, and provenance, date of acquisition, acquisition status, value, location and description.
- 3.1.4. The services of professionals in the field will be obtained for conservation, valuation, restoration and museum standard pest treatment.
- 3.1.5. "The Shoalhaven City Art Collection" will be stored at the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery, Nowra or as permanent exhibition throughout Council's City Administrative Centre, Nowra, or in a separate suitable location as deemed necessary.
- 3.1.6. Acquisition of artworks will be directed by this Policy and the following considerations:
  - The artwork's current and future relevance to the Collection
  - Local significance
  - Significance of the artist
  - Historical and/or cultural value
  - Cost and/or value for money
  - Available funding
  - Advantageous opportunities

### **3.2. Gifts and Donations**

- 3.2.1. Artworks can be accepted into the Collection in the form of donations and bequests. The works must correspond with the details of the Collection Policy as part of acquisition procedure.
- 3.2.2. With consideration to insurance and risk requirements, artworks may be temporarily accepted by Council for the purposes of consideration of a donation or purchase, formal assessment of a work or to seek valuation of a work prior to acquisition.
- 3.2.3. The Shoalhaven Arts Board will accept donations and bequests under the Cultural Gifts Program which fulfil the requirement of the Collection Policy.
- 3.2.4. Objects outside the scope of this Policy and gifted to Council through national and international relations will be registered as Council assets in place of being accessioned.
- 3.2.5. Donors will be informed that neither conditions nor provenance will be accepted as part of the donation or bequest and that the art work/s becomes the property of Shoalhaven City Council and subject to its prevailing Policy.
- 3.2.6. On behalf of the Shoalhaven City Art Collection, Council will obtain clear and valid title to all purchases, bequests, gifts, donations or loans.
- 3.2.7. On rare occasion, when a unique bequest, which falls beyond the general guidelines is offered, the Shoalhaven Arts Board may deliberate over the acceptance of such a bequest and its capacity to honour any stated provenance. In this event, the Shoalhaven Arts Board will make a special recommendation to be ratified by Council.
- 3.2.8. Donations of money, grants or art works will be receipted within the convention and standards of the Australian Taxation Act.

### **3.3. Loan Items**

- 3.3.1. Council's formal Artwork Loan Agreement is to clearly and contractually specify the conditions of any loan to or from the Collection and to be signed by relevant parties. The Agreement outlines detail relating to the term of loan, ownership, responsibilities, conservation, security, maintenance, insurance and date of return.
- 3.3.2. Items offered for loan are subject to the selection criteria and procedure contained in this Policy and do not warrant automatic inclusion into the Collection.
- 3.3.3. No loan of artworks will be accepted into Council's custody until such time as the matter has been formally considered and resolved by the Shoalhaven Arts Board to accept the works. Works accepted on loan will be maintained, insured and administered as collection items, however, Council does not own the items. Any valuation of the Art Collection should delineate between the value of the Collection owned as distinct from the value of the Collection administered.
- 3.3.4. Works on loan should not be lent to other institutions or individuals without the written consent of the owner of the work.

### **3.4. Conflict of Interest**

- 3.4.1. Acquisition of works for the Shoalhaven City Art Collection will be in accordance with this Policy. At all times, Council and Shoalhaven Arts Board members are to declare any conflict of interest prior to deliberations on the acquisition of artworks.

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- 3.4.2. Purchase or acceptance of donations from current full-time Council officers or Shoalhaven Arts Board members will not ensue without first obtaining an independent valuation of the work and ratification from the responsible delegated Council authority.

**4. PROCEDURES****4.1. Selection Procedure**

- 4.1.1. All proposed acquisitions, whether by purchase, gift, exchange or loan will be appraised by an Acquisition Sub-Committee comprising:
- a Councillor member as nominated by Council
  - Manager – Arts and Culture, Shoalhaven City Council
  - Two Shoalhaven Arts Board representatives (one with visual arts background) as nominated by the Board and
  - An invited/co-opted member of the arts community who possesses knowledge of Australian Art
- 4.1.2. Acquisition appraisals will be consistent with this Policy.
- 4.1.3. Works not accepted into the Shoalhaven City Art Collection may be considered for inclusion and registration as a Council asset without being accessioned as part of the Collection.
- 4.1.4. The Sub-committee may present the opportunity for specialist outside expert comment on proposed acquisitions.
- 4.1.5. All proposals and recommendations shall be in a written report and will include details of:
- The artist's name
  - Residential status
  - The title and image of the work
  - Date of execution
  - Medium and size
  - Method of acquisition
  - The vendor or donor
  - The provenance of the work
  - Price, valuation or insurance value if a gift or a loan
  - Current condition
- as well as a statement setting out the reasons for acquisition, its place in the collection and its merit as a work of art in its own right.
- 4.1.6. The Arts Manager, on the advice of the Arts Acquisition Sub-Committee, will present a recommendation to the Shoalhaven Arts Board for its consideration and adoption
- 4.1.7. Acknowledging that some artwork is sacred and restricted, only works intended for public display or approved for display in consultation with appropriate representatives and communities will be considered for acquisition.
- 4.1.8. No acquisition will be made which compromises or jeopardises the financial viability of the Collection budget.

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4.1.9. The Shoalhaven Arts Board will not accept any work which bears any unreasonable or inappropriate restrictions on its display, storage, maintenance and provenance.

4.1.10. The Board will be mindful of Australian or international laws or covenants that restrict or govern the acquisition of cultural material.

**4.2. Accession**

4.2.1. Newly acquired works are to be registered in the Collection Management System on receipt by the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery. Registration and catalogue data include:

- issue of a unique identifier number
- photographic image of work
- information regarding materials, technique and provenance

4.2.2. File and document numbers of related documents such as Acquisition Agreement, Loan Agreement, Maintenance Schedule and Condition Report must also be entered into the database.

**4.3. Deaccessioning**

4.3.1. The process of removing or disposing of works in the collection, otherwise known as deaccessioning, will not be undertaken for any reason apart from:

- lack of relevance to the Collection
- duplication of another object in the collection
- requirement of prohibitive conservation work and/or the work is beyond repair
- the work has already been destroyed, lost or stolen
- cannot be suitably stored
- should be returned as restitution of cultural property
- subject to legislation which prevents Council holding title to it

4.3.2. For deaccessioning to proceed, the Board must receive written recommendation and formally determine to deaccession the work. The report will clearly state the reason for disposal and include:

- object unique identification number;
- description;
- photograph;
- advice on legal status (if available);
- any written specialist advice;
- impact the action would have on the collection; and
- suggested method of disposal

4.3.3. Where deaccessioning is approved the order of priorities for removing the work from the collection shall be:

- Donated works returned to the original donor / artist or next of kin
- Donated works offered as a donation to another cultural institution, or works that were purchased are offered for sale to another cultural institution based on current valuation.
- Works sold at auction and the proceeds of the sale reinvested into the collection acquisition fund.



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- 4.3.4. For items that have already been destroyed, lost or stolen, the deaccessioning process must also be completed. The Board will then determine whether reasonable steps, if economically viable, have been taken to locate/recover /restore the work.
- 4.3.5. After a 2 month interval (cooling off period) works which have previously been presented to the Arts Board for deaccessioning and rejected, may be re-submitted for consideration and further determination by the Arts Board. .
- 4.3.6. Where artworks have been donated to the collection, the donor, or where feasible the next of kin, should be offered the opportunity to have the work returned to them. Al reasonable effort should be made to contact the donor or next of kin to discuss the deaccessioning of the work. Works purchased via a collective (group) donation do not fit this category.
- 4.3.7. Procedural guidelines for each method of disposal and/or removal of artworks must be clearly defined, implemented and proceed in full public knowledge. Evidence of compliance should be attached to deaccessioning documentation.
- 4.3.8. Archived records documenting deaccessioned work will be permanently stored within Council.

**5. IMPLEMENTATION**

The Finance, Corporate & Community Services Group of Council will administer this policy.

**6. REVIEW**

To be reviewed within 1 year of the election of a new Council.

**7. APPLICATION OF ESD PRINCIPLES**

Council will maintain and store works to ensure the preservation of artworks and Council's investment.

***Songbird*** – works



*Kimberley* 2021

Digital collage, archival ink and acrylic on Hahnemühle Museum Etching Cotton Rag paper  
110 x 80 cm  
\$3500



*Conjola* 2021

Digital collage, archival ink and acrylic on Hahnemühle Museum Etching Cotton Rag paper  
110 x 80 cm  
\$3500



*Gypsy* 2021

Digital collage, archival ink and acrylic on Hahnemühle Museum Etching Cotton Rag paper  
110 x 80 cm  
\$3500



*Gymea* 2021

Digital collage, archival ink and acrylic on Hahnemühle Museum Etching Cotton Rag paper  
110 x 80 cm  
\$3500



*Grays* 2021

Digital collage, archival ink and acrylic on Hahnemühle Museum Etching Cotton Rag paper  
110 x 80 cm  
\$3500



*Miranda* 2021

Digital collage, archival ink and acrylic on Hahnemühle Museum Etching Cotton Rag paper  
110 x 80 cm  
\$3500 (currently unframed)



*Nowra, Sweet* 2021

Digital collage, archival ink and acrylic on Hahnemühle Museum Etching Cotton Rag paper  
110 x 80 cm  
\$3500 (currently unframed)



*A Chorus Line: Neville* 2021

Collage and acrylic on Hahnemühle paper  
39 x 32 cm  
\$700 (small collage)

## AB22.11 Lake Tabourie Museum - Collection Care and Management

**HPERM Ref:** D22/71354

**Department:** Arts & Culture

**Approver:** Jane Lewis, Director - City Lifestyles

### Reason for Report

To inform the Shoalhaven Arts Board of the conservation and collection management issues related to the Jack Nicholson collection at Lake Tabourie Museum and the measures being taken to address those.

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

That Council

1. Receive the report for information.
2. Consider an operational budget bid of \$40,000 as part of the 2022/23 budget process to ensure critical conservation work can be undertaken at Lake Tabourie Museum

### Options

1. Adopt the Recommendation

Implications: The Shoalhaven Arts Board will be aware of the challenges facing the Jack Nicholson Collection and opportunities to secure funding to address this are identified and considered

2. Amend the Recommendation

Implications: Unknown at this stage

3. Reject the Recommendation

Implications: The Lake Tabourie Museum and Jack Nicholson collection will continue to be cared for by volunteers as best as possible, however items will continue to be lost to various agents of deterioration without ongoing funding to manage the Collection.

### Background

The Lake Tabourie Museum (including the Jack Nicholson Collection) was gifted to Shoalhaven City Council in 1983 by the owner, Jack Nicholson. The collection represents a lifetime of interests by Jack, and his enthusiasm for sharing his passions and interests with all. The gift to Council included the Collection, the building Nicholson had built to house his Collection and the surrounding land. The gift required that the museum continue to be opened to the public, that the Collection be maintained as a 'permanent exhibition in-situ' and that the land was only to be used for community purposes.

The Lake Tabourie Museum has been under the care of different volunteer groups on behalf of Council since the enactment of the gift. The museum is currently under the care of the Lake Tabourie Museum Foundation who receive an annual donation from Council, and retain

funds raised through entry fees in return for caring for the grounds, buildings and collection and opening the museum to the public regularly.

In 2018 Shoalhaven City Council partnered with Museums & Galleries NSW to support the work of a Museum Advisor in the Shoalhaven. The Museum Advisor works 20 days per year supporting five (5) volunteer run museums across the Shoalhaven.

The Museum Advisor identified a number of significant concerns at Lake Tabourie Museum, especially relating to the conservation and care of the Collection. These concerns, and discussions between the Manager – Arts and Culture and Council's Insurance Officer resulted in a Collection Valuation and Significance Assessment being conducted in 2021. The Significance Assessment (attached) noted the work being done to address a significant carpet beetle infestation, and also highlighted a range of other concerns.

Based on the concerns raised in the Significance Assessment, and conversations with the Museum Advisor, Museum volunteers and the Collection Expert working through the Museum Digitisation project, Council staff have submitted a grant application to Create NSW for a major project to significantly improve the collection care and record keeping over the next 12-18 months and set the museum volunteers up for future success, working towards significantly improving museum practise and knowledge and rethinking the visitor experience at the Museum. This project includes

1. Immediate replacement of the bottles and solution all (150) wet specimens are preserved in. Removing all Formalin (formaldehyde) solution and replacing it with Ethanol solution, replacing the old-style jars with degrading rubber seals with new museum standard jars and assessing all specimens for signs of degradation due to sitting in low solution levels for an unknown period of time
2. Conservation for forty (40) small textiles directly related to the Mellshimer family and general store.  
There are 78 of these textiles that need work, with the cost to undertake conservation and replace the backing material with museum standard textile backing quoted at \$230 (excl GST) per item.
3. Commissioning of a preservation needs assessment by a registered conservator to identify the next most pressing conservation needs for the Collection and make recommendation on the long-term requirements of the Collection
4. Commissioning of a curatorial and marketing assessment of the museum to provide ideas for the direction and vision of the Collection – meeting the preservation needs of the Collection, the opportunities for visitor engagement and preserving the essence of Jack's vision of sparking curiosity and wonder
5. The employment of a museum officer working part time for 12 months to:
  - a. Catalogue the Collection onto the e-hive collection management system
  - b. Continue working towards digitising the Collection using the digitisation studio established at Shoalhaven Regional Gallery
  - c. Research items held in the Collection from Indigenous communities in Qld and NSW and seek to open conversations with appropriate Elders, LALCs and knowledge holders about repatriation of objects or appropriate interpretation of items.

Alongside this major project, Council staff have also applied to the Culture, Heritage and Arts Regional Tourism Fund for a small grant (\$3,000) to fund the purchase of a new showcase and new exhibition panels for the front entrance to better tell Jack's story and introduce visitors to the reason for the Museum.

These projects seek to address immediate needs and provide a framework for Council and the Lake Tabourie Museum Foundation to work together to secure the future of the

Collection and the museum, maximising the potential for cultural tourism and seeking to capitalise on the unique story of this museum.

### **Community Engagement**

The Lake Tabourie Museum Foundation has 11 active volunteers and is highly regarded by the community of the area. The museum is a key tourist attraction for the southern Shoalhaven.

### **Financial Implications**

The Lake Tabourie Museum Foundation currently receive \$6,000 per year as a donation from Shoalhaven City Council. Council also supports the contracting of a Museum Advisor contributing \$7,500 to the contract for 20 days work across 5 volunteer led museums.

Create NSW require all organisations to contribute at least 30% of the total project costs for all grant applications. The application to Create NSW is requesting \$76,000 with a cash contribution from Council of \$28,500. Hours donated by Museum volunteers are also counted as contributing to the project. Council's cash contribution to this project is currently unfunded and is part of the budget bid for Collection Care. The total project value, inclusive of funding from Create NSW, in-kind support and Council's contribution is \$108,700.

The Arts and Culture Department currently has no annual recurrent allocation for collection care. Funding is allocated based on operational budget bids for significant conservation projects and / or the valuation of the City Art Collection at 5-8 year intervals.

The support of the Shoalhaven Arts Board is sought to request Council consider a budget bid of \$40,000 in the 2022/23 budget to enable this project to proceed including an annual recurrent funding allocation of \$10,000.

This funding will to support the delivery of this project should grant funding be received, provide additional funds to undertake the conservation of the remaining small textile collection from the Mellshimer family, and provide ongoing funding to ensure the conservation and care of both the art and museum collections owned by Council.

### **Risk Implications**

The conservation and care of the Jack Nicholson Collection housed at Lake Tabourie Museum is now critical. Items are being lost due to the agents of deterioration. There are many in the Lake Tabourie community who remember Jack Nicholson and have a personal connection to him. The presentation of the museum, and the care of the Collection may impact future offers of donations to Council's collections and Council's reputation as a provider of Cultural services.

There is a further financial and reputational risk if grant funding is awarded, and Council's contribution remains unfunded. If a budget allocation is not secured to meet our required contribution, the grant funding will need to be returned.