

This issue: Presidents Report

PAGE 01

Join a Group Info and Links PAGE 02

<u>Calendar</u>

PAGE 03

Glen Rock Gallery PAGE 04

Lowood Open Door Gallery

PAGE 05-06

The Condensery Somerset Regional Art Gallery PAGE 07

SASI Workshops PAGE 08

Group Chat Group Photos and reports PAGE 09 - 11

Photography Article

PAGE 12 - 13

Members Page PAGE 14

Somerset Art Society Inc Supporting the arts and artists in the Somerset Region SE QId

Newsletter March 2025

Presidents Ponderings with Sandi Hook

Hello everyone. Last year was busy with artists engaged in gallery exhibitions in The Condensery, Glen Rock Gallery and the Open Door Gallery. Glen Rock Gallery and Open Door Gallery have a four week turn around for exhibitions which is an intense task setting up. For this I thank Jan and her team at GR and Karen, Marita and Cassandra from the Open Door. Madeline at The Condensery provides a wealth of differing exhibitions to appeal to all audiences and particularly has a focus on presenting Somerset Artists, last year with Deb Mostert's Everyday Sketchbooks.

Last Saturday afternoon and evening the inaugural Harvest Biennial opened. This exhibition 'Volatile Terrain' was derived from the language in the applications of the successful Somerset Artists. The five artists were mentored, extending their individual ideas with experts in concept design and writing artist statements and biographies. Cara-Ann Simpson, the curator was a wealth of information on contemporary artists and concepts for our work. If I may speak for the five Somerset artists, we were extended conceptually with our artworks, made good friendships and achieved our goals of exhibition readiness. Nine other artists of note are exhibited and together I would say this exhibition is on a par with the Australian Pacific Triennial 2025 at GOMA. The Sommerset artists are, Cassandra Hodgkins, Jim Filmer, Naomi McKenzie, Sandi Hook and Shirley Gregor. If you haven't seen it, please do so and encourage your friends to go. It's exceptional. Madeline has this year again placed local artists in The Condensery. Well done. I would encourage artists to apply for the next round for the 2027 biennial. This is professional development to a new and robust level.



Volatile Terrain Artists: Naomi McKenzie, Shirley Gregor, Cassandra Hodgkins, Sandi Hook and Jim Filmer

Andrea Oxenford has very capably established 'The Musos' group. In the first few weeks the feedback is that it is very successful. I am looking forward to serenades at openings and away artists camps. Extending the Art in Somerset to include music, painting and who knows what else is a positive. It creates strong friendships and well-being for like-minded people. There is a strong connection between the two. Art and music, art and writing, music and writing. Getting together in groups is an enjoyable experience, just as those from Mt Beppo and Fernvale Artists.

As ever this newsletter is packed with information for all artists with exhibitions, stalls and opportunities to extend your art practice. Enjoy. Regards Sandi

Join a Group **Contacts**

Click on the LOGO to visit the SASI Website

Join SASI Groups



For more info Click the photo to visit SASI website Groups page

Click on the I OGO to visit The Fernvale Artists Facebook page

> For more info Click on the Camera to visit SASI Photography Group page

> > For more info Click on the **MUSOS Logo**





Join SASI - https://www.sasiart.com.au/memberships

SASI Members are active in supporting the arts and artists in SE Qld. Members enjoy free exhibition curation at Glen Rock Gallery Esk, discounted or free workshops, participation in SASI Members Market Stalls and a monthly email newsletter.

Join the Mount Beppo Artists - Contact: Gwen 0437 197 381

Meeting on Wednesday mornings from 9am until 1pm at Mount Beppo Community Hall, 916 Mount Beppo Rd, Mount Beppo QLD. New members warmly welcomed.

Join the Fernvale Artists - Contact Sue White 0407 072 926

The Fernvale Artists meet on Thursdays 9.30am - 12.30pm at the Fernvale Community Hall in Banks Creek Road, Fernvale, or at the Lowood Open Door Gallery. Anyone in the local area is welcome to join them, or just to visit.

Join SASI Photography Group Contact Phil Lister Email plphotographix@gmail.com

If anyone would like to join the Photography Group or has questions about photography in general, please contact Phil

Ioin SASI MUSOS Contact Andrea Oxenford 0459 031 895

SASI Musos will meet on Monday mornings from 9am until 12 noon at St Agnes Anglican Hall, Ipswich St, Esk, starting on 3 February 2024. Players of all instruments are welcome at this friendly weekly session.

Council Volunteers Join Somerset Regional



To Apply Visit https://thecondensery .com.au/about/getinvolved/



Join a Somerset Group

https://www.somerse t.qld.gov.au/somerset -arts-culturedirectory



Join the Esk Visitor Information Centre Tourism Volunteers Contact Carole Labram mail@somerset.gld.gov.au

To Apply visit Volunteer | Experience Somerset

Become a Gallery Ambassador at The Condensery Contact email: mail@somerset.gld.gov.au

Supporting the arts and regional tourism

Somerset Arts and Culture Directory

A Somerset Regional Council Initiative supporting the arts and regional tourism

Esk Glen Rock Stitchers Lynne Robson Ph 07 5424 1382

The Glen Rock Stitchers meet every Thursday in airconditioned comfort at the Anglican Hall, Ipswich Street, Esk. They sew and share ideas and knowledge amongst friends with this common interest.

newsletter@sasiart.com.au



Calendar of Events What's on and What's coming up

GALLERIES

Glen Rock Gallery Friday 7 March to Wednesday 2 April 2025 SASI Members Theme: 'Koala'

Lowood Open Door Gallery

March Darling Downs Fine Art Group

The Condensery

15 February 2025 - 27 April 2025 Volatile Terrain

WORKSHOPS

See workshop page for details on Workshops at Lowood Open Door Gallery

and Free workshops at The Condensery Toogoolawah

EVENTS

Musician's Meetup Mondays from 3rd Feb 2025 9am - 12 noon SASI Musos sessions at St Agnes Hall Esk. All musicians are welcome.

OTHER

Artist Call Out

applications due by 4pm Monday 17 March 2025 see The Condensery page for details

SASI Committee Meeting Friday 21 March at Shirley's, 8 Russell St, Esk, 9:45 for 10am.

SASI General Meeting in May Date: TBA 9:45am for 10am start St Agnes Hall, Esk

SASI's Small Is Beautiful Competition & Exhibition See page 9 for update.



What's Up at Glen Rock

SASI Members Exhibition FRI 7TH MAR - WED 2ND APR

In The Display Cabinets at Glen Rock

LOCAL ARTISTS Coal Creek Pottary Exquisite Cards and Gifts



What's Coming to Glen Rock Gallery

> APRIL Charlotte Sybenga MAY Sharon Lee JULY Small is Beautiful

Glen Rock Gallery supported by SASI and Somerset Regional Council

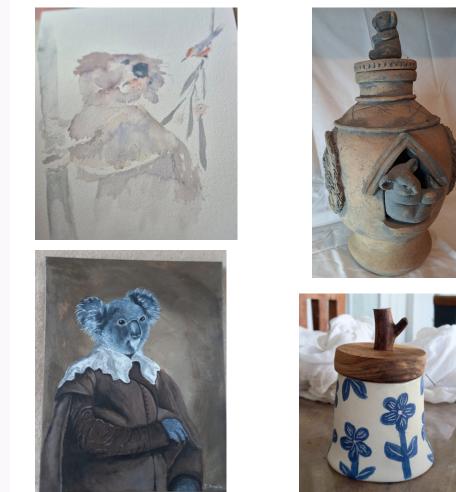
ESK VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE 82 IPSWICH STREET, ESK, QLD 4312 OPEN TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 9-4PM SATURDAY 10-2PM CLOSED SUNDAY, MONDAYS THE FIRST THURSDAY MONTHLY AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

"Koala's" SASI Members Exhibition 7TH MARCH- 2ND APRIL

The upcoming exhibition in Glen Rock Gallery is a group exhibition showcasing SASI artists. There will be an interesting mix of media and subjects in both 2D and 3D formats. The artists have come from all over our region.

The April exhibition will feature a talented young artist, Charlotte Sybenga. Following that will be Sharon Lee during the month of May.

Prepare for the release on <u>sasiart.com.au</u> of the categories and conditions for the Small is Beautiful competition to be displayed in Glen Rock Gallery during July.



View the full exhibition at Glen Rock Gallery, Esk Visitor Information Centre 82 Ipswich Street, Esk, QLD 4312 Tues-Fri 9-4 Saturday: 10-2

<u>CLICK to EXPLORE</u> <u>Glen Rock Gallery</u> online

Exhibit at Glen Rock! -Contact: Janine Godfrey glenrockgallery@sasiart.com.au

Glen Rock Gallery Curators Jan Godfrey, Sue Howard, Betty Williams, Gwen Litfin.



Lowood Open Door Gallery

A Lowood Lions Project

RAILWAY STREET, LOWOOD, QLD 4311 THUR 9:30AM - 12:30PM SAT/SUN 9:30AM - 2PM

Lowood open Door Gallery Mt Beppo Exhibition lifted the gallery space with their creative flair of many mediums including ceramics. We would like to thank you for bringing your artwork to our space and for the volunteers who gave of their time on weekend duty throughout the month.

What's Coming to Open Door Gallery

> MARCH Textile Art Darling Downs Fibre Arts Group

APRIL 2D or 3D Mothers Day Theme

> MAY Carol Fletcher Watercolour

Karen Leahy's popular Resin workshop was again a great success 10 people got into the groove and came away with a few items to showcase their morning efforts. (see images). Gai Edmonds will be joining us with a new addition of Adult China Painting on the 8th and 9th of March. Karen and Krissy will also be doing a new addition to our workshops "Miniatures" workshop. This unique creative workshop is all about creating a tiny object that tells an individual story.

In May, Cassandra Hodgins's will be teaching 'Plant Dying '. Some places are still available. Bookings are essential for all workshops. Please see the list of all our workshops with all details in the workshop section of this newsletter.

Just a reminder we have our Mother's Day Theme exhibition coming up in April and we would love all SASI artists to place their artwork in this exhibition for sale. Please note Lowood Open Door Gallery do take a 15% commission of the sale price. If you are interested in displaying and selling your art during this exhibition, please notify us on <u>lowoodopendoorgallery@gmail.com</u> so we can forward you a contract informing you of our gallery's terms and conditions. (see advert later in this newsletter)

Please note that the Lowood Lion's Club is also opening the Lion's Den, another great space to hold workshops. If there are any SASI members who are interested in doing workshops in 2025, please contact Karen Leahy on 0402 217 912 for further information. Weekend and Weekdays availability. See advert for further info.

Stay creative, Marita Reynolds



Lowood Open Door Gallery



In The Cabinets at Lowood





A Lowood Lions Project

RAILWAY STREET, LOWOOD, QLD 4311 THUR 9:30AM - 12:30PM SAT/SUN 9:30AM - 2PM

What's on 2025

January	Aaron & Jason	Local History	
February	Mt Beppo Artists Mixed Media		
March	Darling Downs Fibre Arts Group	Textile Art	
April	Mother's Day Theme	2D or 3D	
Мау	Carol Fletcher	Watercolour	
June	Donna Vale The Crooked Potter	Acrylics Pottery	
July	Fernvale Artists	Mixed Media Graphite Arytists other than FAG	
August	Lowood High School	Mixed Media	
September	Bec & Paul	Photography	
October	Breast Care Unit	Fund raiser	
November	Noela Lowan & Jodie Lone	Paintings Quilter	
December	John Grooten	Acrylic	



Mother's Day Gallery Sale

Lowood Open Door Gallery is having a theme for April 2025 exhibition of 'Mothers'

We welcome handmade items or artworks for sale over the month of April, prior to Mother's Day. The gallery take 15% of commission on sales.

To register your interest so we can provide more details closer to the event please email Karen at <u>lowoodopendoorgallery@gmail.com</u>



What's Up

at the Condensery

CUBOMANCY

SCRIPTED PERMANENCE

3 MAY 2025 - 13 JULY 2025

3 MAY 2025 - 13 JULY 2025

The Condensery Somerset Regional Art Gallery

29 FACTORY ROAD TOOGOOLAWAH QLD 4313 WED TO SUN 10AM - 4PM CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

HARVEST BIENNIAL 2025: VOLATILE TERRAIN

15 February 2025 – 27 April 2025

FEATURING BONITA ELY, CASSANDRA HODGINS, DYLAN SARRA, JIM FILMER, JUDY WATSON, KATE GECK, MARIAN DREW, MEGAN COPE & KEG DE SOUZA, NAOMI MCKENZIE, PRITA TINA YEGANEH, SANDI HOOK, SHIRLEY GREGOR.

CURATED BY CARA-ANN SIMPSON.

The Condensery's inaugural Harvest Biennial exhibition, Volatile Terrain explores the intersections and divergences of geography and geology, with consideration to a world in constant flux. The exhibition provides an opportunity to examine how humanity lives on Earth, as well as interacts, destructs and rehabilitates it.

The exhibition is hyper-local and responsive to the Somerset region. The project is underpinned by substantial local artist development opportunities and an extensive community engagement program. The Somerset artists participating in Volatile Terrain are Cassandra Hodgins, Jim Filmer, Naomi McKenzie, Sandi Hook and Shirley Gregor.

Designed to extend and enhance audience engagement, the following talks are led by local artists featured in the exhibition. Visit <u>https://thecondensery.com.au/programs/</u> to register.

Artist Talk & Morning Tea with Naomi McKenzie Sat, 8 Mar, 10:30am - 11:30am AEST · <u>Event info</u>

Artist Talk & Morning Tea with Sandi Hook Fri, 14 Mar, 10:30am - 11:30am AEST · <u>Event info</u>

Artist Talk & Morning Tea with Cassandra Hodgins Fri, 28 Mar, 10:30am - 11:30am AEST · <u>Event info</u>

Artist Talk & Morning Tea with Jim Filmer Fri, 11 Apr, 10:30am - 11:30am AEST · <u>Event info</u>

Artist Talk & Morning Tea with Shirley Gregor Thu, 24 Apr, 10:30am - 11:30am AEST · <u>Event info</u>

See the workshop page for more

ARTIST CALL OUT

The Condensery are seeking expressions of interest from artists living in the Somerset Region to produce new artworks for <u>The Show</u> an exhibition taking place at The Condensery from 6 Dec 2025 to 16 Feb 2026.

The Show will be an exhibition of artworks that capture the agricultural shows held in the region's larger townships. The resulting exhibition aims to prompt reflection upon our personal associations with local agricultural shows, the role of nostalgia in the preservation of colonial values, and possible futures for regional community building.

Apply by 4pm Monday 17 March 2025 by emailing the below Application Form to <u>thecondensery@somerset.qld.gov.au.</u>

Application Form Link

EXPLORE The Condensery Website

CLICK to EXPLORE https://thecondensery.com.au/

Condensery Gallery Manager Madeline Brewer mail@somerset.qld.gov.au or Contact Email thecondensery@somerset.qld.gov.au



Art Workshops for the Somerset Community

To recommend a Workshop with a particular tutor and/or in a specific media

Contact: SASI Art Workshop workshop@sasiart.com.au

Artists are most welcome to apply to present a workshop

March-May Lowood Workshops



China Painting with Gai

Miniatures with Christiane & Karen



BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

quiessenceart@gmail.com

Email for bookings: lowoodopendoorgallery@gmail.com

Free Workshops in March and April at the Condensery

Presented by Somerset artists participating in the Volatile Terrain Exhibition Note: Spaces are limited. Book your tickets now. https://thecondensery.com.au/programs/

Linoleum printing with Sandi Hook Fri, 14 Mar, 1pm - 3pm AEST · Event info

Scratch Art Workshop with Cassandra Hodgins Thu, 3 Apr, 10:30am - 12:30pm AEST · Event info

Shoot Film with Naomi McKenzie Thu, 10 Apr, 10:30am - 12:30pm AEST · Event info

Group Chat



SASI Report

Upcoming Events for Artists

Artists are already preparing for the many events held in Somerset over the cooler months. SASI's Small is Beautiful competition and exhibition at Glen Rock Gallery in July is open to all artists, the Esk Garden Fair in June where SASI provides a 6x3 Market stall for SASI members' garden art, and our local Somerset shows held in May, June and July are always popular events for displaying artists works.

Small is Beautiful awards 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Peoples Choice prizes in each category. In brief:



The SASI Secretary keeps SASI members informed via email regarding participation in the Esk Garden Fair SASI Members market stall . The market stall is a commission free outlet for sale of SASI members' garden art.

Somerset 2025 Show dates

Esk 23-24 May <u>https://www.eskshow.com.au/</u> Schedules available Schedules coming soon for Toogoolawah 6-7 June <u>https://www.toogoolawahshowsociety.org.au/</u> Lowood 13-14 June <u>https://www.lowoodshow.com/</u> Kilcoy 25-26 July <u>https://www.kilcoyshow.com.au/</u>

We look forward to your participation in any or all of these events!

Group Chat



Mount Beppo Art Group

Out and about with Mt Beppo Artists



Descriptive words including AMAZING and FANTASTIC! were heard often during our visit to the exceptional exhibition of Alan Bell's 'Canned Art' at **Glen Rock Gallery**. Still showing until the 5th March - its Highly recommended you pop in. Join us on the 7th March at 11 am as we peruse the SASI Members exhibition.



Betty and Patricia journeyed to **Lowood Open Door Gallery** to enjoy the Mt Beppo Artists exhibits. They were very impressed with the curating and thank the curators for the care they take to display all artworks to the best advantage.







SASI MUSOS

SASI Musos off to a great start

Seven musos attended the inaugural SASI Musos session at St Agnes Hall on Monday 3 February,with numbers increasing each week since. Fifteen musos at the last session for February! Attendees have commented that they are enjoying the relaxed atmosphere, the great song repertoire and the fun vibe of the morning. One attendee has even brought his written lyrics to the meeting, and other musos are working with him to add a melody and chords.

Our repertoire has grown to eight songs:

- Take me home Country roads
- Eleanor Rigby
- The Sound of Silence
- Sundown
- Me and Julio down by the schoolyard
- Slip slidin' away
- Sittin' on the dock of the bay
- Hey Jude

If this music appeals to you, come along and enjoy a morning with a friendly group of musos.

Your first session is free, then \$5 per session.

Players of all instruments are welcome, including voice.



Send your stories and/or photos to newsletter@sasiart.com.au

How I Frame Photographic Prints

Last year I wrote a series on framing and what to look out for and consider. I thought I might follow up on that with a rundown on how I go about framing photographic prints for myself.

I guess the first consideration is the actual frame itself. For the photography I do its almost always black timber (usually pine) for monochrome prints or unpainted timber for colour prints, either plain or stained to some degree. Selecting timber is the next step. I use commercial moulding that originates from Melbourne for monochrome prints. These are always bought in "packs" consisting of 2 "sticks" or lengths of moulding around 2.7 meters long each. They are always wrapped in brown paper so you really cannot see the condition they are in until they are unwrapped. The main faults I encounter once separated are bending or twisting. If they are bent then it's a matter of cutting frame lengths to avoid the actual bend area or if they are bowed over the full length, then there is not much you can do and if not severe I can usually work with this.



An example of trying to deal with a corner gap. Although the cuts are at 45 degrees, this timber had a minor bend along its length and this is the result. Fortunately this is not severe and was easily fixed. Being on the back of the frame helped to!

Twisting is worse (think corkscrew) and even a slightly twisted stick can be almost impossible to use unless cutting to very short length's for small frames. I know of one professional framer in Ipswich who told me he once had to go through 6 2.7m lengths before he could find enough straight moulding to make one 400mm x 500mm frame! Fortunately this is not a common occurrence.

The third issue which can sometimes happen is variation in moulding thickness, especially the rebate thickness (the bit where the glass/acrylic sits) within the same batch of moulding. The first time I encountered this was when I placed a sheet of glass into a completed frame and it wouldn't sit flat, a potential cause for cracking the glass. On closer inspection I found that one side of the frame had a different rebate thickness to the other three which necessitated rebuilding the frame. Lesson learned!

For plain timber I usually use Tasmanian Oak available through a number of sources but I buy mine from Bunnings as its easily accessible, however not all stores have the same moulding stock. Again each single piece (or stick) has to be examined for straightness, twisting as well as colour, the structure and prominence of grain and physical damage. Colour of the timber becomes an issue if more than one stick has to be used to create a single frame, then its' a matter of trying to match timbers on a range of criteria. This can be exasperating!

How I Frame Photographic Prints

Once I have enough timber to create the frame I want to make, it's then time to measure and cut to length. Since each end of a frame piece has to be cut at 45 degrees, this has to be taken into account when measuring. For example, an $8^{\circ} \times 10^{\circ}$ frame will have an extra measurement to account for this, based on the width of the rebate, so the actual cut length might be 12" x 10". There is a maths formula for this and if anyone is interested let me know and I can send it to you.

Cutting the frame sounds like an easy task and can be if the correct tools are used. To get neat corners that sit flat, cuts have to be at 45 degrees when looking at the frame as well as 90 degrees to the base of the frame timber. If either of these are not at the correct angles, there will be gaps which will need filling and may have the potential for a wobbly frame. Having cut the timber I then glue the frame with an American industrial wood glue, clamp the frame with a strap clamp for 24 hours, checking each corner to make sure all 4 are set at 90 degrees.



An example of correctly cut corners, with no gaps in the 45's. This is the clamping strap I use as well as the glue.

The next morning the clamp is removed and each corner on the reverse side is checked for flatness before V-nailing. If the corners are not flat they are sandpapered until they are. Once flat each corner receives 2 V-nails (or more depending on the width of the moulding) which are designed to hold the corner together. The frame is then turned over and again each corner checked to make sure there are no gaps and are sitting flat.



Sanding the corners to get a super flat join on the presentation side.

Next month I'll go into how to finish of the frame and insert the matted photograph.

SASI Members Page

Dedicated to members, for members, from members.

Recommended by Members



Ipswich Art Society

Saturday Morning Casual Painting SECOND SATURDAY of each MONTH 9.00AM TO 1.00PM

The Old Court House (Ginn street rear entrance) cnr East and Roderick Streets, Ipswich.

Come along to our Untutored Art Group held at the Old Ipswich Courthouse to enjoy some quality time and share ideas and interact with other artists.

Cost: \$5.00 for Members and \$10 for non members with 'join on arrival' facility. Coffee/tea is provided , bring your lunch.





COACHALAINNEE.DESIGNS@GMAIL.COM

CUSTOM ARTWORKS, DIGITAL BRANDING AND CUSTOM PRODUCT DESIGN AND CREATION TO SUIT ALL OCCASIONS



COACHALAINNEE.DESIGNS



facebook.com/BargainManiaEskQLD/



Flowers by Felicity

Qualified Florist 25+ Years Plants, Flowers & Arrangements

	(
	0

for all occasions

6	

Felicity Maden

emervale4@activ8.net.au

0413 133 168 #FlowerPower

Local Artist-available for commission artwork.

Always living in our rural district, there is a special interest in travelling through our range of beautiful Australian landscapes, using varieties of colours and techniques to portray them on canvas.





Artist & Local Historian

~ Oil ~ Acrylic ~ Watercolour ~ Pastel ~ Graphite ~ Ink

Mail ~ 5 Dellar Street Kilcoy, QLD 4515 Telephone ~ 0455 617 193 Email ~ njlowien@gmail.com

Instagram ~ #noelalowienartist Facebook ~ Noela Lowien Artist

Lions Club Of Lowood



Now have two places for rent

The Lion's Den and the Lowood Open Door Gallery both would be suitable for workshops. Each is equipped with kitchen. toilets, tables and chairs, good lighting. **Reasonable rates** Plenty of parking. For further enquiries and rates please phone Karen on 0402 217 912

> **Riot Art and Craft Stores** are now stocking quality artist supplies https://riotstores.com.au

SASI appreciates the support of Esk Fruit Shop for displaying SASI brochures and our Glen Rock Gallery posters.

Send your recommendations | business card to newsletter@sasiart.com.au