

Hobsons Bay Community
Advancement Co-operative Ltd

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Our Vision

Our Vision is for the Louis Joel Art & Community Centre to be known as a community arts centre delivering an outstanding program to meet the needs of the community through accessible arts programs, events and arts development – to be recognised as the artistic hub of Melbourne’s West – bringing people together through the enjoyment of the arts.

We will do this by creating:

- an exceptional community destination with the spaces, facilities and resources to unlock the potential of arts in our community
- a space that welcomes diversity and nurtures the soul
- a place where artistic excellence and endeavour is celebrated, supported and welcomed.

Our Purpose

To strengthen and connect the Hobsons Bay community through sharing and participation in arts and cultural activities. We are built on a legacy of community ownership delivering innovation, arts and community service.

Our Values

We hold these values dear to us, and demonstrate them in our work with each other, the way in which we work with the community, and the way in which we govern our organisation.

- Diversity
- Integrity
- Respect
- Enterprise
- Community connectedness
- Trust
- Sustainability

Our History

The Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre is on the site of the old Altona Hospital which was closed by the then State Government in 1996. The community rallied to form the Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd who purchased the hospital and redeveloped the site to house a community centre, art gallery and activity rooms. Named after Dr Louis Joel, first doctor at the Altona Hospital, the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre was opened in November, 2005.

*Photographs courtesy of:
David Lord | Nola Kelsey | Catherine Storm*



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Board of Management & Staff 2018-2019

Chair	Maree Duffield
Deputy Chair	Catherine Curtain
Secretary	Rebekah Townsend
Treasurer	(Colin) Terry Heazlewood OAM
Members	Debra Kamal Richard Hansen Kate De Marco (appointed August 2017) Colin Harrison
Centre Manager	Kim Reilly
Administration Officers	Lyn Hunt Danielle Whelan

Funding Bodies, Corporate Sponsors & Partners

The Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd would like to thank the following Funding Bodies for their financial support, corporations for their valued sponsorship, State and Federal Government departments for project grants and project partners:

Hobsons Bay City Council
Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Mobil Altona Refinery
Dow Chemicals
Victorian Multicultural Commission
Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
Egyptian Cultural Association of Victoria Inc.
Buloke Shire Council
Ryk Eksteen, Collins & Co Audit Pty Ltd
Mulcahy Butera Property Managers
Bunnings Altona North

We acknowledge that we are on traditional lands of the Kulin Nation and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and through them, to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.





Message from the Chair

Maree Duffield

Hobsons Bay Community
Advancement Co-operative Ltd

I am delighted to present this report on behalf of the Board of Management of the Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd (HBCAC). Our co-operative owns and manages this facility and its operational arms which are, the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre (LJACC) and the Joel Gallery.

It continues to surprise many people and funding organisations that we are not a council owned facility. We operate as an independent, self-funded community Co-operative. This comes with great responsibility and some risk. Like any business enterprise, our success and viability arise from good business practice, robust planning, good governance and strong financial accountability. Integral to our success in the community sector, is our ongoing development of durable partnerships with other community organisations, all levels of government and our funding bodies.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board who have volunteered to give their time and expertise to guide the organisation to achieving the goals we set in our Three-Year Strategic Plan. I recognise their commitment to keeping our organisation viable, relevant and innovative. In addition to our several volunteer board members we have, from time to time, seconded experienced community members to sit on sub committees. Their input to our strategic planning and in providing considered information for board deliberation has been appreciated. Thank you to all.

A Board's job is to provide oversight and governance of an organisation. It is the employees - the management and staff - who implement the core business activities of the organisation, in line with the Strategic Plan.

We are fortunate to have Kim Reilly as the manager of LJACC who continues to develop

and grow the LJACC. Kim is a constant source of energy, innovation and positivity at the Centre. We have equally capable administrative staff with Lyn Hunt and Danielle Whelan who have grown and developed in their roles, expanding their responsibilities and contributing to the ongoing success of LJACC.

Volunteers are an integral part of the LJACC and the Joel Gallery. Without them we could not function optimally. These wonderful people contribute in so many ways - supporting our administration desk; helping with special projects; running or assisting in our programs; assisting with gallery exhibitions and openings; gallery sitting; doing our gardening; helping with additional cleaning and maintenance; and contributing to the overall good community 'vibe' that is LJACC. Our volunteers have a sense of pride and ownership of their contributions and the Board is grateful and acknowledges their work.

I would like to reflect on some of the achievements of the Board and LJACC in the past 12 months. The strategic plan identified five areas of priority focus

1. Our space
2. Arts and Cultural program
3. Finances and resources
4. Relationships, partnerships and networks
5. Governance

Currently over 50% of the actions identified in the plan have been completed and many of the others are underway. In order to accomplish some of these actions the BOM has expended over \$110,000 of its own funds (including donations) to secure the continued growth and stability of the LJACC, particularly its people resources and building facility.

The HBCAC is in a sound financial state, we continue to operate on the basis of a surplus each year. This strength has enabled us to make an informed decision that we had sufficient funds and capacity to bring forward and implement many of the actions in our strategic plan. Particularly, you can see this



Board Members and Tim Watts, MP for Gellibrand.

in the upgrading and refurbishing of our facility, investment in appropriate software programs to facilitate administration and Board processes and investment in our staff as well as consultants to aid the Board and management in implementing needed governance tools.

Funding

In 2018-19 we received a Department of Industry, Innovation and Science- Stronger Communities Grant of \$20,000. We matched this funding with \$20,000 from our own funds in order to completely clean and paint out the Centre, replace the carpet in the foyer and the flooring in the activity rooms. We also replaced aged kitchen appliances and completed essential repairs to air-conditioning units. The facility looks refreshed and professional and will continue so under a scheduled maintenance and essential services program.

The board has also provided operational grants of over \$95,000 to the LJACC, that will be noted in the budget. This has provided funding for:

- 32 solar panels, which will reduce our electricity bills by 60% per annum.

- Renewal and replacement of our signage and improvement of street profile and visibility.
- Budgets for further renovations to storage and the kitchen area.

In addition, the Board has recognised that our human resources are our most important assets. Within this year's budget we have unanimously decided to increase the EFT of our administration staff, to allocate 8 hours a week of paid curator work to the gallery and to extend the contract hours of our capable project officer, Catherine Storm.

The Board has made these decisions in recognition of the need to grow and expand our Arts and Cultural program through developing additional funding and partnership opportunities, to develop a robust gallery strategic plan and consolidate and strengthen our existing exhibition and activities program. We are excited at what the future holds for this wonderful Centre.

Building and maintaining partnerships and meaningful working relationships with other people, organisations and networks are vitally



important whether we are an individual or in this case a Community Centre. These relationships enable diversity of ideas and community engagement as well as funding opportunities to develop our Arts and Cultural programs.

I would like to wholeheartedly thank the following people and organisations

The Hobsons Bay City Council, Councillors and staff for their support and encouragement, funding and project grants. We have had a constructive and open relationship with HBCC for over 20 years and thank them for their professionalism and friendship.

Our local industries continue to support local initiatives and programs at LJACC and many other community venues. In particular, I would like to thank two local iconic industries who enabled innovative programs that saw fantastic community support and involvement.

- Dow Chemicals who promoted and funded a Midsumma/GoWest Photography exhibition and the Rainbow Pride in Altona community event.
- Mobil Altona Refinery whose funding enabled LJACC to develop, promote and curate the 'Postcards of Altona' competition and related exhibition as well as their ongoing support and promotion of the Centre's activities.

Other valued partners include:

The Victorian Department of Health and Human Services which provide HBCAC with an annual grant to support the centre.

Department of Industry, Innovation and Science- Stronger Communities Grant – matched funding grant for the 2019 building renovations.

Department of Premier and Cabinet - Equality Branch for a grant to support Midsumma/GoWest activities

Our Volunteers and staff

I would like to make special mention of the Hobsons Bay Arts Society which has been closely associated with the LJACC since its inception. Both organisations have a constructive and productive working relationship. The Board would like to congratulate the Arts Society on celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year and wish them a wonderful and exciting future.

There are undoubtedly other organisations and individuals who have not been mentioned but this does not diminish your contribution to the ongoing success and growth of our beautiful Community Centre and I thank you one and all for another successful and inspiring year!



Finance Report

The 2018-2019 Financial Year (*'the year'*) was a busy year for the Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-Operative (*'HBCAC'*) and the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre (*'the Centre'*).

The staff of the Centre, the 'operational arm' of the Co-operative, were rushed off their feet putting on an increased volume of programs, classes and activities, with the Joel Gallery booked out all year long with high-quality exhibitions and events including: For the Love of Egypt; The Sustainable Living Project; the Orange Tree Concert (the poetry of John Shaw Neilson) and the Postcards of Altona competition and exhibition.

The result of this was that the Centre was used and visited by a larger and more diverse group of people. In the eyes of the Board this means that the Centre had a successful year as it achieved its purpose to: Strengthen and connect the Hobsons Bay community through sharing and participation in arts and cultural activities.

While the Board can claim part of the credit for this success, the real credit must be directed towards the Centre's staff and volunteers who put in so much effort throughout the year to make this happen.

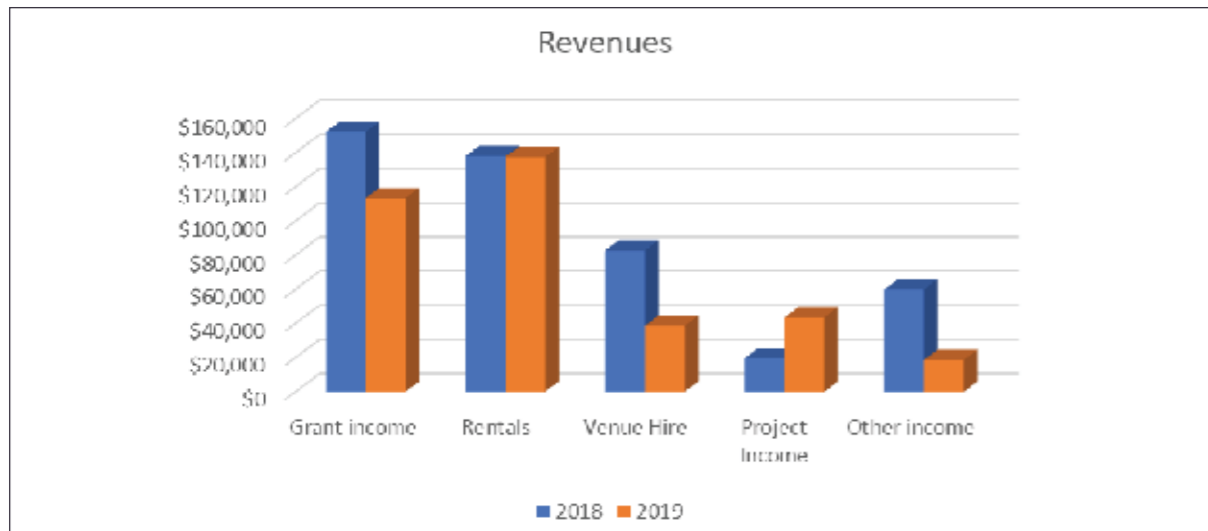
This brings me to my real reason for writing Financial Overview. Now I know that reading finance reports can be a laborious exercise that only an accountant could love, but I implore you to bear with me and I will make this an effort that is worth your while. As I pick a few of the important figures, bring them to life and make them interesting!

To get you all in the mood, I will share with you a graph.



You can see in the graph that the expenses incurred, have dramatically risen over the year (2018: \$301,789, 2019: \$421,165). A rise in expenses like this could easily be perceived as a negative thing. But I can happily tell you that this increase tells a good story as it reflects all the additional activities, programs and exhibitions that have occurred during the year. The negative feeling that may have appeared when first seeing these expenses can be further dispelled by looking at the right hand side of this graph: the revenues. In 2019, we saw revenues also rise (2018: \$351,145, 2019: \$454,559) a tremendous result and further evidence of the increased level of activities at the centre over the year.

Deeper analysis shows us that the increase in revenues was derived from Louis Joel Community Centre activities. Now this may not tell us much, but we can gain further information by delving deeper. This figure is extrapolated and shows us the great work performed by the Centre's staff. The increase in revenues was made possible by the additional income earned by the Centre and the uplift in grants received by the Centre. The figures also show the continued support of the HBCAC who, via a commercial lease within our property, were able to fund the activities of the Centre for the benefit of the community.



The support of the HBCAC board did not stop there. You may recall from last year's report the excellent financial health of the Centre which had been reinvested in the Centre via additional mortgage repayments. The mortgage has now been largely repaid with our current and non current liabilities totaling \$106,941, (borrowings of \$58,715 + \$48,226 respectively).

Prudent fiscal policy produced this position of sound financial health and has placed the HBCAC in a position where funds can be reinvested back into the Centre for the benefit of the whole community.

During the year the HBCAC board approved and provided funding for:

- 1) Replacement of the air conditioning units in the Joel Gallery;
- 2) Engaging a part time Project Officer: To aid the current staff at the Centre and to advance the services/programs/events to a higher level;
- 3) Additional Program Funding;
- 4) Development of an Artist Database;
- 5) Refurbishment of the Centre;
- 6) Replacement flooring in Activity Rooms and Foyer;
- 7) Installation of Solar panels, my personal favourite as it will reduce energy bills (which I am looking forward to seeing in next year's financial statements) and it saves the environment!

And yes this can be seen in the financial statements via

- 1) increases to building and administration expenses and
- 2) increases in HBCAC's borrowings, (via a redraw of the mortgage).

As a Board we are comfortable with this position. This is due to the continued financial health of the Co-operative, which is evidenced by the achievement of another year of net surplus and the low level of debt that exist.

We also believe that additional investment in the Centre helps drive the vision of HBCAC and the Louis Joel Art & Community Centre by creating:

- An exceptional community destination with the spaces, facilities and resources to unlock the potential of arts in our community;
- A space that welcomes diversity and nurtures the soul;
- A place where artistic excellence and endeavour is celebrated, supported and welcomed.

Regards

Richard Hansen
B:Bus (Acc), CPA, MSCI
Director
HBCAC



Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria

The Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre is classified as a Neighbourhood House and receives funding under the Victorian State Government's Department of Health and Human Services Neighbourhood House Co-ordination Program as well as co-ordination funding from Hobsons Bay City Council. We operate under two service agreements and deliver an extensive, multi-faceted program. We employ one full-time Manager and two part-time administration staff as well as a contract bookkeeper. Additional revenue is raised by the HBCAC and the Centre through room hire, whole venue hire for private functions, the leasing of office space and through income generated by a commercial lease. This income has enabled HBCAC to increase administration hours and to engage a project officer. This increase in resources is in direct response to the increase

in programming and the number of projects we undertake. In turn, the aim is to see an associated increase in revenue through grants, sponsorship and donor base.

We maintain our reliance on a team of volunteers to assist with the running of the Centre. Administration support, specific project management, gardening, gallery sitting and many other tasks still need volunteer support – to further grow our reach into addressing the needs of our community. The Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre is governed by a Board of Management – all are volunteers who give of their time and expertise to ensure good governance, sound financial viability and to forge the strategic direction of the organisation.

Neighbourhood Houses bring people together to connect, learn and participate in their local communities through social, educational, recreational and support activities, using a unique community development approach.

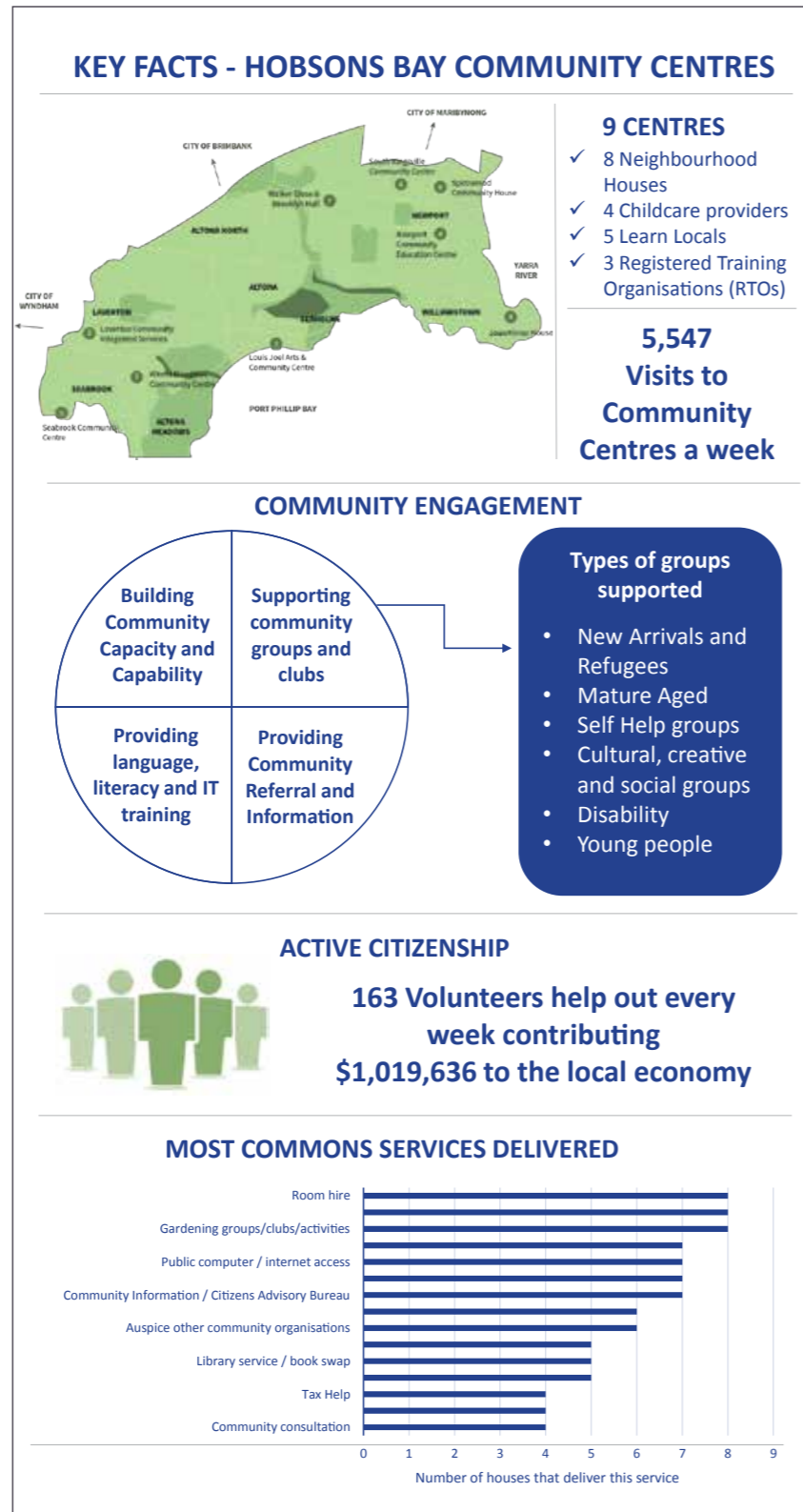




The Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre includes arts - specifically community arts into our programming as a response to a demonstrated need within our local arts community.

Community development is enabling communities to identify and address their own needs. It starts from the assumption that communities have existing strengths and assets that make them part of the solution. Community development practice is about doing with, rather than doing for. Neighbourhood Houses welcome people from all walks of life. This inclusive approach creates opportunities for individuals and groups to enrich their lives through connections they might not otherwise make.

'If you've been to one Neighbourhood House, you've been to one Neighbourhood House.' (Neighbourhood Houses Victoria - website) There are around 400 Neighbourhood Houses across Victoria. There are nine centres or houses within Hobsons Bay who respond to locally identified needs and priorities. The program at each Neighbourhood House in Hobsons Bay can be quite different from each other - increasing the range of opportunities by limiting the level of duplication.



Hobsons Bay Arts Society 40th Anniversary

The beginning...

In late 1979 Joan Craggs placed an advertisement in a local paper inviting local artists to a meeting at her home gallery in Millers Rd, Altona. A total of 11 people attended (with a few apologies) and from that time on, plans were made to conduct regular meetings.

'Altona Artists Association' as the group was originally known, started meeting regularly at the Altona Salvation Army Hall and were incorporated in 1986. It was in 1998 that the name changed to reflect the recent council amalgamation and so Hobsons Bay Arts Society Inc. (HBAS) became the only Arts Society in Hobsons Bay - then and now, 40 years on.

There have been a few home changes since the Society was formed.

- 1980-1983: Altona Salvation Army Hall
- 1984-1993: Altona Arts & Craft Centre, Somers Parade, Altona
- 1993-1999: The Circle Gallery, Altona East (old Altona East Library)
- 1999-2003: Old Altona Hospital (prior to renovation and becoming the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre)
- 2003-2005: Altona Library Meeting Rooms (while the Hospital was under renovation)
- 2005-present: Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre

HBAS & Me: Wall of Palettes 40th Anniversary Exhibition and Birthday Celebration

To commemorate the 40-year journey of HBAS, all members were invited to create an artwork on a wooden palette and to reflect upon how HBAS inspired or inspires them on their creative journey. A wonderful display of the wooden palettes was hung in the Joel Gallery, housed within the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre in a two-week exhibition and celebration.



Current Foundation & Early Members

- Derek Craggs
- Moira Blackett
- Edward Allsopp
- Ray Hewitt
- Shirley Fisher
- Gwen Temby
- Victoria Smith

HBAS thank all these members for their contributions over the past 40 years and were thrilled to award them with Life Memberships.

Derek Craggs: Foundation Member, Treasurer x 14, President x 8, Committee Member, Life Member.

Derek has been a stalwart of HBAS since the beginning as an office-bearer and committee member, a force to be reckoned with on various councils supporting the requirements of HBAS, 'manpower' volunteer, and an art exhibitor.

Moira Blackett: Foundation Member, Treasurer (1982), President (2002, 2003) and past Committee Member.

Moira has been a familiar face at HBAS having been on our committee for many years and has attended classes under many different tutors over her time.

Edward Allsopp: Foundation Member, Vice President (1989), past Committee member. One of our most senior members, Ted has entered just about every exhibition run, and has been a workshop and activity night leader and demonstrator.



Ray Hewitt: Early Member, VP (1996 & '98) President (2005) and past committee member.

Ray has been a familiar presence at HBAS and over the years as an office bearer and committee member, class tutor, workshop leader, demonstrator and exhibitor.

Shirley Fisher: Early Member, Vice President (1989), past Committee Member.

Shirley has been an active member and attendee of activity nights since joining, as well as an exhibitor in most of HBAS's exhibitions.

Gwen Temby: Early Member, past Committee Member.

Gwen tutored a popular watercolour art class for many years and has been a regular exhibitor in HBAS events.

Victoria Smith: Early Member, Committee Member.



Vicky has been a lively participant in many HBAS events and hasn't let her failing vision stop her from enjoying art and the company of HBAS members - she still attends sketching group on Tuesdays when possible.



HBAS owes its inception and its continuation to one person, Joan Craggs, OAM (1927-2008).

Joan's passions were her family, her art and her community. Always busy creating, teaching and promoting art, Joan was an inspirational artist, mentor and advocate for the arts in the community of Altona and then Hobsons Bay. Many local people's houses feature in artwork by Joan Craggs, an everlasting testament to her skills with a paintbrush.

Joan instigated the first community art show in Altona which began as the Hoechst Art Show in the late 1970's and continued as a weekend event headlining Altona's 'Operation Recreation' Festival for many years. Later sponsors were Kemcor and Genos, who remain major supporters of the Society and the current incarnation of the Art Show, the '5x7' Art Prize, held annually at the Joel Gallery.

Joan established 'The Palette Pals' - a group of artists who travelled together on painting trips around Australia. She saw the need for a structured, local group for artists in the Altona community. It was Joan's vision that is the very reason that 40 years later, the whole of Hobsons Bay community is celebrating the success of Hobsons Bay Arts Society as an inclusive, encouraging network of over 130 artists.

Joan Craggs OAM 1927-2008
Founder of Hobsons Bay Arts Society
(formerly Altona Artists Association)

... Joan's passions were her family, her art and her community.





Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre 2018-2019

The utilisation of spaces at the Centre has the dual purpose of promoting community arts to the Hobsons Bay community and at the same time raising some revenue to support the Centre's activities in this area.

In 2018-2019, the following organisations, classes and events were connected to the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre.

ORGANISATIONS

- Hobsons Bay Arts Society (HBAS)
- Altona Lions Club (Leos)
- Altona Community Gardens Inc
- Seabreeze Quilters Inc
- Vietnamese Association in Hobsons Bay Inc
- Maori Wardens
- Altona-Laverton Historical Society – Book Launch
- IPC Health

HEALTH & WELLBEING

- Kings of the Kitchen – Men's Cooking Class
- Creative Art Therapy for Adults
- B.O.B. Club – Boys Only Barbeque
- Pilates
- Essential Oil Workshops

ART, CRAFT, LEARNING

- Patchwork Classes
- Art Classes (HBAS)
- Artful Dabblers (HBAS)
- Sit 'n Sew
- Learn to Sew
- U3A classes and events
- Decorative Painting
- Writing support group



Kings of the Kitchen

Our Kings of the Kitchen program is heading into its 10th year and still going strong - it is run by our volunteers, Marlene and Dorothy (with help along the way from Julie and Georgia). It is thoroughly enjoyed by our Kings who have stayed with the group for many years. While they have access to recipes, ingredients and the technical know-how to create delicious food, they are also accessing a social network that has become a regular outlet for the men in this group



Boys Only Barbeque (B.O.B.) Club

The Boys Only Barbeque Club (B.O.B.) meet every second Monday – rain or shine and are coming into their second year. Doug Townsend is the volunteer chef for the day as he facilitates this group who get together for a bacon and egg roll or a sausage in bread and a good chat. A social outlet that provides support over lunch.



EVENTS

- Egyptian Cultural Event
- Art & Industry
- Cultural Diversity Week
- GoWest/Midsumma
- Spring into Life
- Cultural Exhibition in Partnership with HBCC
- Baton Relay event
- NAIDOC week
- Neighbourhood House Week
- Altona-Laverton Historical Society – launch of 'A Bush Hospital by the Bay – Altona Hospital 1932-1996'
- Neighbourhood House Week
- Volunteer Week
- My Smart Garden



SUPPORT SERVICES

- Altona Anxiety Support Group (through ADAVIC)
- Westgate Carers Support Group

REGULAR GROUPS

- Altona University of the Third Age (U3A)
- Kumon - Altona Education Centre
- Dramawerkz – Children's Drama Classes
- Seabreeze Quilters Inc
- Big Heart Church
- Volunteer West Inc
- One Spirit African Drumming and Dance
- Polynesian Weaving Group





Tribute to Volunteers

In 2016, 19.2% of Victorians participated in formal volunteering (www.volunteeringvictoria.com.au) Volunteering across Victoria contributed millions of hours to the community. The volunteers at the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre provide, on average, 120 hours of support each week – a significant contribution by all measures.

The Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre's 'family' of volunteers are so very valued, appreciated and needed at the Centre. We have volunteers who provide administration support and run projects and programs. Volunteers help curate gallery exhibitions, cook a fantastic barbeque and keep our beautiful gardens in top condition. Our volunteers come to the Centre for a few hours or for a day or even many days in the week. We know how much value they add because if they happen to miss a day or two, it's 'all hands-on deck' for the staff and other volunteers to cover the gaps.

In addition to the volunteers who support the Centre with gardening, maintenance, administration, photography and programs, the members of the Board of Management are also volunteers and contribute an additional 40 volunteer hours per week. They are members of our local community, from all occupations and backgrounds, with the skills and expertise to take up the challenges of governance, strategy, financial management and overseeing the operations of the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre. Their role is to guide the Co-operative towards a secure, sustainable and prosperous future.

A big, big thank you to all our volunteers over the past year, some of whom are pictured here – our Centre would not be same without you.



... our Centre would not be same without you.



Joel Gallery Exhibitions & Events 2018-2019

hours & hours

24 September – 6 October 2018
Jemma Cakebread, Rhianna Chillingworth, Alyssa Donlon, Georgia Morris, Bronwyn Morrison, Jordyn Parker, Harrison Verschuur, Ada Wailam Wong

Mental Health Week – The Elephant in the Room

7 October – 11 October
Mairead Ashcroft

Egyptian Cultural Event – For the Love of Egypt

12 October – 25 October
Egyptian Cultural Association of Victoria

The Sustainable Living Project - Departure Lounge, Trash and other works

26 October – 1 November
Peter Forward

Affinity with Nature

2 November – 15 November
Nadia Kowalyk

Wear and Share Josie's Home

17 November – 22 November

Art & Industry Festival

Hobsons Bay City Council

Weekend Workshop Showcase

23 November – 29 November
Hobsons Bay Arts Society

Learning Curve + Little Gems

7 December – 21 December
Hobsons Bay Arts Society

Because of her we can

11 January – 31 January
Western Region NAIDOC 2018 Photo Exhibition

Seen

GoWest/Midsumma Exhibition

1 February – 14 February
Laura Rouhan

Rainbow Pride in Altona

9 February
Logan Reserve
Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre

Pastels, Paintings and Photos

15 February – 28 February
Ross Baring & Carolyn Morwood

Love the Old Port

1 March – 14 March
Barb McNeil

Orange Tree Concert

The poetry of John Shaw Neilson

15 March – 17 March
John Shaw Neilson Society, Altona-Laverton
Historical Society, Louis Joel Arts
& Community Centre

Looking up

18 March – 31 March
Melbourne Art for Asylum Seekers

HBAS 5 x 7

5 April – 25 April
Hobsons Bay Arts Society

Life in Beijing

26 April – 9 May
Queenie Zhang

The overwintering project

10 May – 23 May
Hobsons Bay City Council

Reinvent, Repurpose & Restore

8 June – 20 June
Louis Joel Arts & Community

Postcards of Altona

22 June – 4 July
Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre

Contemporary Aboriginal Art

6 July – 18 July
Private Collection

Jane Austen Winter Festival

19 July – 31 July
Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre with the
Jane Austen Literacy Foundation

Gaze

3 August – 15 August
Zoe Elms

HBAS – 40TH Anniversary

17 August – 29 August
Hobsons Bay Arts Society

Ode to Hand Me Down Clothes

2 September – 5 September
The Penny Mint

Spring Art & Artisan

7 -September – 18 September
Hobsons Bay Arts Society

Destination – Buloke

20 September – 3 October
Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre, Hobsons
Bay City Council, Buloke Shire



'Visual Arts Together' Class Participant.

Events

Louis Joel Refurbishment Launch

Afternoon Tea

Midsumma

Rainbow Pride in Altona Family Event

Arts West

Catch up club

Overwintering

Print making workshop

Sustainability Week

Sustainability workshops

Jane Austen Winter Festival

Jane Austen talks and workshops

Social Inclusion Week

Beyond the Surface - Exhibition in
Activity Rooms

International Women's Day

Terrarium Workshop at Bunnings, Altona

Neighbourhood House Week

Gardening Q & A



Postcards of Altona

Altona is arguably one of the most picturesque locations in the world! Well, that's how we feel about our seaside suburb. But we haven't had a series of postcards for many years that shows off our locale and even with social media and mobile phones, some of us still like to send a physical postcard – especially if the photo is an amazing one.

So, 'Postcards of Altona' became a major project for the Centre.

A community grant from Hobsons Bay City Council allowed us to not only put the project on but it allowed us to pay the winning photographers for the use of their image in a postcard.

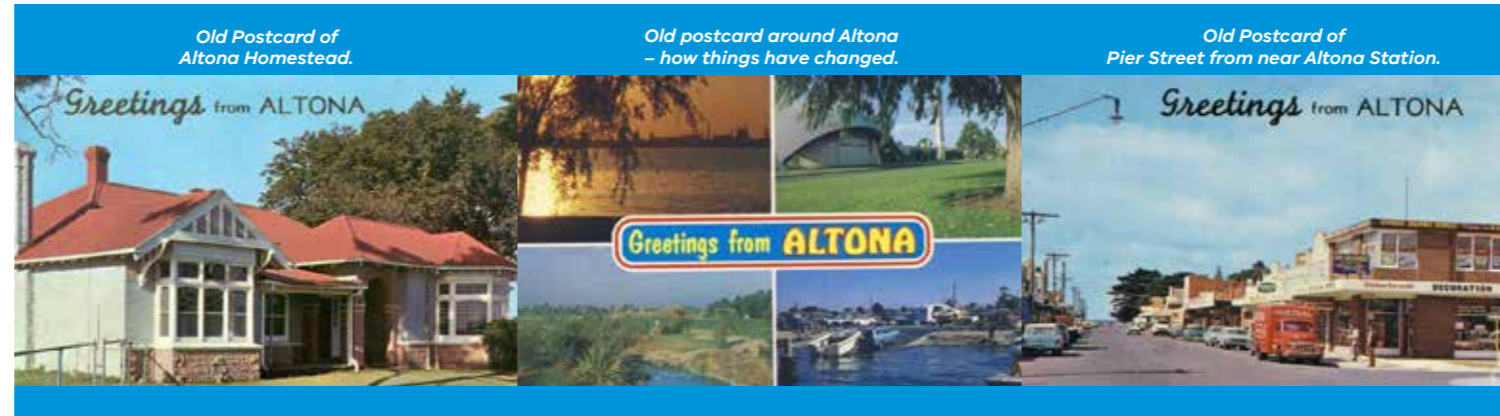
It was an open competition for photographers of all ages to submit images that showcased Altona's natural beauty, heritage and culture.

Joel Gallery EXHIBITIONS 2018-2019

Mobil were supportive sponsors of this project and in recognition of Mobil's 70th anniversary, entries were also invited that depicted Mobil in Altona.

From more than 200 entries, 55 were selected for display in Joel Gallery. Visitors to the exhibition were invited to vote for the People's Choice Awards. More than 330 voters participated, casting almost 3000 votes.

The Top 10 voted favourites were reproduced as postcards. The two Mobil Category winners, selected by Mobil, became limited edition postcards for Mobil to use.



Three Birds – Russell Cassar.



Altona Foreshore Birds – Neil Dennis.



First Light Jetty – Jon Barrie.



Altona Boxes – Viet Hoai Tran.



Another Day Will Come – Carlos Almenar.



Foggy Morning at Cherry Creek Bridge – David Mullins.



Altona Dog Beach – Viet Hoai Tran.



Break of Day – Stephanie Young.



Gathering at Sunset – Fabiana Canepa.



The Orange Tree Concert

The Poetry of John Shaw Neilson

John Shaw Neilson Society in partnership with Altona-Laverton Historical Society and proudly supported by Hobsons Bay City Council.

Australian poet, John Shaw Neilson, is still known as one of this country's finest lyric poets who wrote a great deal about the natural world and the beauty in it. He was born in South Australia in 1872 and was the oldest son of Scottish-born bush-worker and selector John Neilson and wife Margaret.

In 1881, the Neilson family moved to the Wimmera district of Victoria to take up a selection, where Shaw Neilson found time to wander the surrounding swamps and woodlands, observing nature and foraging.

Joel Gallery EXHIBITIONS 2018-2019

The family struggled to make a living from the poor farming land and Neilson senior was soon forced to become a labourer on other stations in order to support the family.

Shaw Neilson had very little formal schooling and lived a largely 'hand to mouth' existence doing casual manual labour like his father, clearing scrub, fruit picking or shearing. While largely self-taught, Shaw Neilson published five volumes of poetry during his life. He died in Footscray in 1942 and is buried at Footscray Cemetery. The link to Altona is that Shaw Neilson travelled by train to visit his half-sister who lived in Seaholme in the late 1930's and his final resting place is Footscray Cemetery.

The John Shaw Neilson Society has presented the 'Orange Tree Concert' over many years – so named after one of the more well-known poems. Much of Shaw Neilson's poetry is put to music and the walls of the Joel Gallery gently reverberated to the sounds of the flute, guitar and keyboard as the lyrical poetry was sung by talented and dedicated performers. A highlight of the Concert has always been the afternoon tea – which was an amazing affair.



John Shaw Neilson.



Performers at the John Shaw Neilson - Orange Tree Concert
L-R: John Thorn, Maggie Somerville, Rick Keam, Yvonne Clarke and Mary-Jane Wylie.



"... Vivid, expressionistic, peaceful, calm, energetic"

Zoe Elms

"I've always been attracted to the most simple and ordinary. Put simply, peaceful and serene in its purity. How We Live is a collection of a study that tells a story of thoughts and feelings that surface behaviourally through our everyday living. What we do and how, the elements of you that make up collectively what we see in colour, shape and form. Inspired by the purity and beauty of the simple and ordinary of everyday, my artworks too reflect simplicity, calmness, certainty and beauty in ordinary moments. And it's in the stillness and quiet that we are reminded to reflect on gratitude and recognise its beauty.



My earliest memory as an artist is remembering sketching my grandmother as she fell asleep, I was 8 years old. So young I still remember thinking about the proportions of the face and balancing it well with the rest of the sketch - the composition. As my observational skills developed, so did my artwork. Deciding to use my natural talent as a career, I went on to study art and design thinking I would be happy to work within the guidelines of a brief. That wasn't the case as I yearned to express what I saw and felt. Although I've shown at galleries, my greatest joy was showing my paintings at venues, markets, fundraisers, festivals, art shows, where they could be seen by anybody and everybody. Seeing first hand when someone falls in love with your piece or has such strong connection that it moves them emotionally, is a memory I will always cherish. I've sketched and painted all my life, sold over 400 paintings, and in the brief times that I wasn't able to due to raising children or work, well aware of the void, I compensated

by throwing that creative energy into expressing myself through writing books, my love of food, playing violin and studying human behaviour. Knowing too that talent never leaves you and ideas and inspiration continue to build toward the many exhibitions yet to come.

Human behaviour inspires me. Movement, energy, expressions, words, stillness - simple everyday moments. I paint predominately in acrylic as it allows me to move energy quickly when painting movement. I also do love painting in oils for its depth and intensity however I don't like to mix the two mediums together on canvas. Instead I enjoy the challenge of bringing out what I want most from the medium I use at the time. I also love, love, love painting on big canvases. Paintings create an energy in the space they are hung in any size but when they are big they begin to represent the whole space, I like that".

Zoe Elms



The Artist – Laura Rouhan

Laura Rouhan is passionate, energetic and engaged community development practitioner working with a rights based approach. Working in the community services sector for over a decade, Laura has experience in Aged Care, disability and seniors services. Laura currently manages a neighbourhood house in Melbourne's West where she is empowered and driven by the diverse, resilient community that surrounds her.

Laura has extensive volunteering experiences that include Community Development

Field Research in rural Bali with a local community radio station and Health promotion NGO; hosting a news and current affairs radio program on community Breakfast radio and leading a health promotion and co-design

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education programs for people with low or no vision in Botswana, where she contributed to international policy and the establishment of local service provision are just a few of Laura's achievements.

As a human rights researcher and LGBTQIA+ advocate, Laura has presented research at national and international conferences.

As a passionate amateur photographer, Laura works with 35mm film and digital formats to document people's stories and the industrial history of Melbourne's West.

Built industrial landscapes of the west

Diverse stories of residents

Her photographic work has appeared in several not for profit Annual reports and on Social media sites as well as the *Footscray Stories* exhibition 2017.



Laura Rouhan and Taimor Hazou
Leader Corporate Affairs - Dow Chemical.

Photographic work

Footscray Stories 2017

Following a four-week residency period in Maribyrnong City Council's dedicated studio space, Artsbox, this exhibition features photographs taken by participants of workshops run by Christine McFetridge and Mike Read throughout the residency.

What does it mean to be a resident of Footscray?

The participants have considered what it means to them to be a resident of Footscray and created a short series of photographs about place. **Footscray Stories:** Curated by Christine McFetridge and Mike Read.

Laura Rouhan is a human rights activist, community development worker, foster carer, football tragic (go Cats! Go MUGARS!), Footscray foodie, coffee drinking, loving westie... and wouldn't have it any other way. She's lived in the western suburbs for about ten years and for five of those in Footscray. Laura lives near the Maribyrnong River, which is an oasis with the industrial urban backdrop of Melbourne and Footscray. She has long held an interest in photography and the process of developing a series for *Footscray Stories* has re-ignited this interest and reaffirmed her love for Footscray.

500 Cans Art Project Midsumma 2019

500 Cans is an aerosol art program based at Woods Street Arts Space and were commissioned by the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre to create and paint new designs on the containers in our carpark. Luca and Jayden worked diligently to complete the works on a wild and windy day.



Luca and Jayden.

Rainbow Pride in Altona

Rainbow Pride in Altona was a family friendly day of arts activities, entertainment and of course, a rainbow inspired afternoon tea. The Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre has supported GoWest and Midsumma for many years with exhibitions and events and each year we encourage rainbow families to celebrate and for the community to show support. This year, in spite of a day of blustery weather, families gathered in the Joel Gallery to have a day of fun. We hope to establish Rainbow Pride in Altona as an annual event.



Rainbow Pride Staff – left to right: Lyn, Kim and Danielle.



The Overwintering Project

Mapping Sanctuary



List of Contributing Artists ...

Melissa Boag	<i>Untitled</i>	<i>Drypoint Etching</i>
Vivian Broadway	<i>Bar-tailed Godwit</i>	<i>Linocut</i>
Robyn Cairns	<i>Altona beach Sanderlings Stitch Sunset</i>	<i>Linocut On Ricepaper</i>
Prue Capell	<i>In Flight Arrival Prevent This</i>	<i>Linocut Black Print and Linocut Etching</i>
Colin Clark	<i>Invasion of the Oystercatchers</i>	<i>Lino, Hand Coloured</i>
Kirsten Craggs	<i>Untitled</i>	<i>Etching, Dry-point</i>
Kate Gorringer-Smith	<i>The Godwit, Grass Frog and Golden Sun Moth Altona Stint Endangered</i>	<i>Eco Print with Lino Cut Eco Print with Lino Cut Eco Print with Lino Cut</i>

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Bron Ives	<i>Echelon</i>	<i>Etching</i>
Eva Klusacek	<i>Sharp-tailed Sandpiper</i>	<i>Linocut</i>
Lance Lessels	<i>Untitled</i>	<i>Etching</i>
Melinda Lloyd	<i>Feeding on the Seagrass at Altona Beach Vignettes of an Early Visitor</i>	<i>Collagraph Monoprint</i>
Tim Lloyd	<i>Evening Meal</i>	<i>Monoprint</i>
Susan Lowe	<i>Twilight in the Marsh</i>	<i>Linocut</i>
Robert Mancini	<i>Watch Beginning</i>	<i>Relief Print Relief Print</i>
Victoria McCaffrey	<i>Stint Mud Flats</i>	<i>Monoprint Monoprint</i>
Jennifer Martinus	<i>Brown on Brown</i>	<i>Monoprint</i>



Malini Maunsell	<i>Flyway</i>	<i>Drypoint on Copper</i>
Mike Nicholls	<i>Cormorants, Kororoit Creek</i>	<i>Linocut</i>
Paula O'Shea	<i>Bar-tailed Godwit Red Knot</i>	<i>Linocut, Hand Coloured Linocut and Watercolour</i>
Sue Poggioli	<i>In the Mangroves</i>	<i>Linocut and Collage</i>
Geoffrey Ricardo	<i>Godwit</i>	<i>Etching</i>
Ellise Roberts	<i>Balance 1 Balance Nest</i>	<i>Screen Print Screen Print Collagraph</i>
Kerrie Taylor	<i>Whimbrel Wandering in Mangrove Journey to the Next Habitat</i>	<i>Etching and Linocut Monoprint with Linocut</i>
Fiona Taylor	<i>Untitled Untitled 1 Sun Birds</i>	<i>Collagraph Linocut Linocut</i>
Sabine Thompson	<i>Sandpiper</i>	<i>Block print and linocut</i>
Sylvie Thompson	<i>Birdy of the Sun</i>	<i>Block Print and linocut</i>
Vicki Tyrrell	<i>Untitled</i>	<i>Collagraph</i>
Janine McGinness-Whyte	<i>Sandpiper and Salt Bush</i>	<i>Linocut and Block Print</i>



NAIDOC WEEK 2018

Celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women of the West - 'Because of her, we can'

NAIDOC Week 2018 celebrated the invaluable contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have made – and continue to make – to our communities, our families, and our rich history and to our nation. Under the theme – *Because of her, we can!* – NAIDOC Week 2018 was held nationally in July 2018.

As pillars of our society, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have played – and continue to play – active and significant roles at the community, local, state and national levels. As leaders, trailblazers, politicians, activists and social change advocates, Aboriginal

The 'Celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women of the West' – 'Because of her, we can' project highlighted the invaluable contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have made – and continue to make – to our communities, our families, our rich history and to our nation.

Community members were invited to submit photos of inspirational women who work or live in the west that highlight the incredible achievements of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. The exhibition was launched on Monday 2 July celebrating and acknowledging all women who were photographed and the photographers.

This photographic exhibition moved throughout the six council municipalities over the year post NAIDOC week 2018. Joel Gallery was proud to host the Exhibition during January 2019.

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and Torres Strait Islander women fought and continue to fight, for justice, equal rights, our rights to country, for law and justice, access to education, employment and to maintain and celebrate our culture, language, music and art. They continue to influence as doctors, lawyers, teachers, electricians, chefs, nurses, architects, rangers, emergency and defence personnel, writers, volunteers, chief executive officers, actors, singer songwriters, journalists, entrepreneurs, media personalities, board members, accountants, academics, sporting icons and Olympians, the list goes on. They are our mothers, our elders, our grandmothers, our aunts, our sisters and our daughters.

Jacqueline Watkins, from Western health has successfully run photography competitions as part of NAIDOC week events to much success in the past. She provided the idea for this medium to be used to celebrate this year's NAIDOC theme.



Auntie Pauline – Photo by Andrew Bott.

Love the Old Port (Williamstown) - Barb O'Neill

Barb began collage as physiotherapy following the trauma of cancer. She is self-taught and uses all recycled papers and cardboard. She enjoys taking commissioned works as well as those which materialise in her mind. Exhibiting is an added joy, as her pictures are of the simple pleasures of life and when others feel that happiness or recognise places in my works, she is truly appreciative.

'My inspiration comes from the endless moods of clouds and water, movements of birds and people, and my love of the town of my childhood.'



The Beauty Shines Through - Queenie Zhang

Queenie is a Doctor of Telecommunication and Information Science and worked as a University Professor before she started to paint in 2010. Her art has been influenced by her family; which includes several artists. The artistic atmosphere and perhaps genetics have influenced her from time to time in her life. After she moved to Australia in 2011 she had more time to pick up her dreams of painting art. She started to learn and practice painting. She mainly studied painting by self-study, reading books and materials seeing exhibitions, galleries and museums. During 2015-2017 she studied part time in a studio named "New Idea and New Image" in Beijing, China. In 2017 she had works shown in the exhibition named "New Painting and New Thoughts" in YanTai, China.

Her works are oil and acrylic paintings; covering flowers, sceneries around dwelling places, lifestyles and portraits of herself, friends and relatives.





MAFA (Melbourne Artists for Asylum Seekers)
LOOKING UP art exhibition

MAFA (Melbourne Artists for Asylum Seekers) is a group of volunteers dedicated to hosting quality art workshops to Asylum Seekers, both inside and outside of detention.

The group met during informal visits to detention centres in 2012 which then evolved into them creating art visits. They are currently expanding to conduct art classes inside detention centres and in the community.

The objectives of MAFA are: To use art to raise awareness of the lives and talents of asylum seekers across the wider Australian community; to allow artists and art students from refugee and non-refugee backgrounds to meet, collaborate and learn from each other; and to create a community united by shared

'Beyond the Surface'
Visual Arts Together
Vincenza Fazzalori

This exhibition and launch event were the result of a 'Visual Arts Together' program designed for older, socially isolated Hobsons Bay Residents and was held under the auspice of the Walker Close Community Centre in Altona North. A series of workshops were conducted and the resulting artworks were framed and presented in an exhibition in the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre.

Vincenza Fazzalori, program convener with the Mayor of Hobsons Bay, Cr Jonathon Marsden and Kim Reilly, Manager, Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre.



Mitchell in front of his artwork, Tea and Bikkies.

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experiences, love of free artistic expression, and a desire to create a kinder world.

The members of MAFA are musicians, dancers, painters, drawers, animators, art therapists, activists, child entertainers, sculptors, crafters and art enthusiasts who welcome anyone and everyone who would be interested in getting involved in their projects. <https://artistsforasylumseekers.org/>

Artists who participated in the 'Looking Up' Exhibition were:

- Azizeh Astaneh
- Samaneh Malekshahi
- Farhad Bandesh
- Zohreh Izadikia
- Maryam Sepasi
- Tri Setyani
- Tadros Hanna
- Ann Soo Lawrence
- Zsofi Samu & Riccardo Armillei
- Olatunji Olafioye
- Naseer Moradi
- Hannah Nyx
- Unknown Artists from Nauru
- Unknown Artists from Christmas Islands
- Creative Action Network



Ayelign Tessema, Manager, Walker Close Community Centre, Altona North.



Destination: Buloke

For a number of years, the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre has supported the friendship alliance between Hobsons Bay City Council and the Shire of Buloke with a variety of exhibitions.

This year, 'Destination: Buloke' is an exhibition showcasing artwork and creativity inspired by Buloke Shire (located in north western Victoria in the heart of the state's wheat belt). Submissions were invited from artists inspired by Buloke Shire's landscape and attractions. Any artform was eligible for the exhibition. Twelve artists exhibited their works which included photos, art works, creative pieces, textile art and millinery.

The project has been supported by the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre, the Shire of Buloke and Hobsons Bay City Council.

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The artists and their inspiration are as follows:

Jamie Buteux

Photography has always been a passion of mine. Since my car accident, it has been a means to refocus my mind and build on my interests.

Photography gives me an opportunity to experience and capture our amazing Australian landscape, with every photo creating a memory of the moment. My colour blindness allows me to view the scenery in a different manner with enhanced shades and contrasts.

Landscapes are my preference although there are moments when nature offers both flora and fauna. All photos are taken in natural light and printed onto various mediums; canvas, glass, metal and traditional photographic paper.

How is your work inspired by Buloke Shire?

This region has some of the best sunsets and sunrises in the country. It can change virtually

overnight with one rain. It evokes emotions; from desert, sand hills and shimmering heat; drought to floods; frosts and fog; an ever-changing landscape.

Jo Malham

Since moving to Donald in 2013 I have settled into the comfort zone that allows me the freedom to create my art. The Buloke Shire, Donald 2000 and local residents have supported me.

My artistic passion lies in textile art that evolves from living in Donald. Inspiration is provided by the local Buloke area – crops, drought, floods and nature in general all contribute to my art. Landscape, vast skies and lifestyle all instruct my art.

In this time of disposable goods, I feel strongly about repurposing items - giving things a second life is part of my thinking. The deconstruction of garments and goods to collect their structure - threads, yarn and aluminium.



'Sense of Place' - Jo Malham.



Jamie Buteux - most photos taken in natural light.

Tracy A Leitch

I started out in the Buloke Shire in 2012 as I noticed that there were not many milliners in the Mallee. I am a survivor of domestic violence and making my creations is my therapy for PTSD and I love making women feel beautiful for one day. My original fascinators depict the landscape of the Mallee. Some creations reflect the harsh landscape and also the softest part of it. I also repurpose materials found in op-shops e.g. crochet doilies, beads, crochet tops, lace tops.

How is your work inspired by Buloke Shire?

Apart from making women feel special for one day, my work is inspired by the wild and beautiful aspect of Buloke Shire. It may be a hot place to live in the summer but the sunrises and sunsets are truly magical and are as original as the landscape.

Mandy Valentine

Creating artwork is relaxing and the feeling of creating a beautiful piece, whether jewellery or artwork is uplifting. It makes me slow down and relax, which is sometimes not easy for me. I draw inspiration from all artists, especially a group I found with the same passion for the fluid artform. I work with fluid acrylics - which



Mandy Valentine - 'Earthy Cells' working with fluid acrylics.



Tracy A Leitch - making women feel special!

is acrylic paint mixed with a pouring medium then cured over days or weeks for jewellery. I also work with epoxy resin which is mixed with pastes, dyes and powders for my artwork and this cures in three days. Both the resin and acrylics have similar pouring methods but resin is harder to manipulate in a pour.

I am now attending markets to sell my art and started a Facebook page to help.

This exhibition is the first time displaying my work other than markets and donations for local events.

Brenden J Murphy

My love of photography started seven years ago but in the last four years I have been developing myself as a photographer, really finding my own style. I have started using film again and enjoy the experience of using my eyes and not relying on a digital screen. I enjoy that every picture is not the same and the craft allows you to play with lighting to create a unique story. Some of my work is currently on commission at the Donald Motor Lodge, and I have also been an official photographer for Cuisine in the Crop, and Esoteric Festival. I'm currently working with the Donald Football Club as their official photographer.



Brendan J Murphy in front of one of his landscape pieces.

How is your work inspired by Buloke Shire?

The land is always changing due to the seasons, droughts etc, and to be on Mt Jeffcott seems to give you a bird's eye view of what this Shire can offer. Sometimes it can look as if there are four seasons in one day. Buloke Shire is very flat and open, and to stand on top of Mt Jeffcott, you can see and show the vastness and extremes of the Shire.

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Birchip Arts Group

These artists are members of the Birchip Arts Group. This informal group of about a dozen community members meets at the Birchip Neighbourhood House on Monday afternoons. They share their expertise, have a cuppa and connect with other community members to discuss and draw things of interest. The group is facilitated by Dianne Clare, a volunteer who brings ideas, resources and suggestions to the weekly sessions to expand their learning, skills and personal development.



Leanne Onley

Leanne Onley is a local artist based in both Donald in Buloke Shire and the Grampians near Halls Gap where she has a farm. Leanne uses acrylic to create paintings that respond to the inspiration of her surroundings. Having taken up painting in 2013, Leanne has held several solo exhibitions and currently has permanent displays in several locations. Her most recent awards in 2019 are Best Artwork in Show, and runner up Best Bay in Show at the Wimmera Art Festival. She has also won Best Landscape and Best Local Artist, as well as The People's Choice Award at the Pomonal Art Show in the Grampians for two consecutive years.

How is your work inspired by Buloke Shire?

Born in Beulah and having lived in Donald for 28 years, and now residing in the Grampians means my paintings are infused with memories of landscapes that have influenced my life. Many of my pieces have an atmospheric element in the work as a response to the desire to create works that are undefined and contemplative. Inspired by nature I use layers of transparent colour in acrylic to achieve subtle contemporary effects.



'Circle of Life' - Leanne Onley.



Catherine Storm

Catherine started making hats and headpieces while living in Europe. After leaving a corporate role with Heineken in Amsterdam, Catherine took the opportunity to build on her dressmaking expertise and learn the art of millinery. In 2013, Catherine established her own label - Time for Bubbles Millinery. Each hat and headpiece is a unique creation, celebrating elegance and glamour. Catherine's hats and headpieces have sold around the world and featured in fashion parades and catwalk shows in the UK, France, China and Australia.

Awards:

- Finalist:
2019 Melbourne International Millinery Competition
- Best Exhibit:
Millinery, 2018 Royal Melbourne Show
- Double Finalist:
2018 Melbourne International Millinery Competition

How is your work inspired by Buloke Shire?

Photographs sourced mainly from the Buloke Tourism website are the inspiration for this collection of hats and headpieces. Bold colours and delicate textures have combined to create very wearable pieces inspired by the colours and shapes of the Buloke Shire landscape.

Kim Reilly

From the very first time I tasted a Kookas Country Cookie, I was hooked! There must be a secret ingredient that makes you want to eat more than one. Then when I heard the story behind this hard-working business and that it was based in Donald, I decided I wanted to support them in any way I could. Not just by eating their amazing biscuits but by following them on Facebook, asking local supermarkets to stock their products and by getting as many friends as I can hooked on Kookas biscuits! I am a quilter who dabbles in many types of patchwork techniques and aspires to create artistic pieces but recognise limitations of time, expertise and talent! This textile piece depicts my icon of Donald, Kookas Country Cookies!





The display of Kookas Country Cookies – the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre proudly supports this business based in Donald in the Shire of Buloke. We are committed to helping them by promoting their incredible products and offering them for sale in our Foyer Shop.



Cr Sandra Wilson HBCC, Cr Graeme Milne Buloke Shire, Cr Colleen Gates, Cr Jonathon Marsden Mayor HBCC.

Barbara Ward

I have enjoyed patchwork quilting for many years, working with colour and cotton fabric to make a variety of quilts for adults and children. I am a member of Seabreeze Quilters and have acted as Librarian and a photographer for the group for several years. I also enjoy knitting and mosaics.



Julie Morrison

Julie is a Mallee woman. A wife, mother, grandmother, former farmer, community volunteer, working woman and self-taught artist. Julie uses farm based Found Objects to craft quirky, humorous pieces that reflect her love of place and farming. She can be found each day driving local kids to and from school on the school bus, she is a tireless volunteer having a regular share in delivering meals on wheels in her local Wycheproof community.

Julie's workshop is her creative space where she produces delightful characters that reflect her self-deprecating sense of humour and love of her Mallee roots. Julie's work is inspired by her respect for the positive legacy left by generations of men and women of the Mallee and her close ties to her home town of Wycheproof.





Reinvent, Repurpose & Restore

Reinvent, Repurpose & Restore was the Centre's annual sustainability focussed program delivered with the support of Hobsons Bay City Council through their environmental grants program.

The two-week program engaged the community in thinking about how we can build a more sustainable Hobsons Bay, with a focus on upcycling and repair.

The exhibition showcased works by ten local artists and artisans showcasing upcycled works in a range of different materials; the artworks demonstrated the almost endless possibilities for re-using an intriguing array of 'pre-loved' materials, encouraging visitors to look differently at what could be viewed as waste.

Dubiously patterned doona covers were given a new lease on life, transformed into bags of various size on a loom by Marianne Coffey. Ted Peck's free-standing Bike Bits sculpture amused visitors who dared to turn the wheel to make the cymbals clash and the old-fashioned horn honk. Holly Cooper combined an intriguing array of materials to create stunning textile samples including seaweed, fishing line, recycled cassette tapes and plastic supermarket bags.



A rag rug made from recycled fabric.



Russell Cassar mending a bicycle.

Accompanying the exhibition, the workshop series explored different ways to divert material from landfill and replace single-use items with reusable things that people can make themselves. Engaging local makers, these sessions including natural dyeing with onion skins, upcycled t-shirt jewellery, rag rugs, beeswax wrap making, string basketry and crocheted produce bags, while kids let their imaginations run wild while creating 'Fobots' and sea creatures from household waste in a school holiday workshop. The sessions were an opportunity for community members to learn new skills and to connect with others interested in environmental and sustainability issues.

As part of the project, we also ran a Repair Café with the support of local volunteers and the team from Mend It, Australia. The event was very popular with the community, with a good number of people bringing in multiple items to be repaired. The vast majority of these were electrical items with easily remedied defects; the event saved more than 15 electrical items, including a circular saw, from going to landfill.



Fobot! A robot made of recycled bits.



Interactive sculpture made of bike bits and bobs by Ted Peck.



A Fun Fish made from a plastic bottle and pistachio shells!

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Bunnings Day of Caring at the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre

The gardens at the Louis Joel Centre have always been a focal point of our beautiful Centre – and we thanks to our volunteer gardeners, we have enjoyed the gardens for many years. But there is so much garden, so many weeds and so many plants needed to fill the spaces. Thanks to Bunnings, our garden this year has had a helping hand. Bunnings staff arrived at the Centre to help us weed, plant, mulch and tidy – and we hope we made it a fun day for them, too.



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Louis Joel volunteer, Marlene with Maree Duffield, Chair of HBCAC with Bunnings Staff at the Bunnings Day of Caring. Photo courtesy of the Star Weekly.



Glenrowan Bush Band

We have been delighted to have Mary Morris and the Glenrowan Bush Band providing music and entertainment for the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre since its opening in 2005.

This year is a very special year with Mary turning 90 and still charming her devoted followers with her zest and verve.

Mary also has her own Ukulele Band at the Williamstown retirement village. She is not looking at slowing down in the near future so keep a lookout for her next performance with the Glenrowan Bush Band at the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre.



Mary playing the piano accordion.

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The Glenrowan Bush Band at the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre's Rainbow Pride in Altona community event.

Jane Austen Winter Festival

For 11 days in Winter, the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre and the Joel Gallery hosted a Jane Austen Festival with speakers, performances and an exhibition.

Festival goers were able to experience the life and times of Jane Austen. Speakers explored the fashion of the era, the laws of the 18th Century that governed Jane's life and family, Regency cooking and dining as well as rare books including a display of first editions of Jane's works. Caroline Jane Knight (5th great niece of Jane Austen) spoke of growing up at Chawton House, the ancestral estate where Jane lived and showed some heirlooms from her private collection.

Christmas was mentioned in all of Jane's novels and the focus of the Winter Festival was on the Christmas traditions of the era. A highlight of the Festival were two performances by Lise Rodgers, whose portrayal of Jane and her writings was truly moving.





Vincenza Fazzalori

La PasseggARTa - Visual Arts Together

We would like to introduce you to Vincenza Fazzalori. Vincenza has worked with the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre over the past few years but it is in this past year that we know a little more about this remarkable woman who has been working to improve the lives of people living with disabilities.

We tell you her story to not only pay homage to Vincenza but to highlight the disparity with the arts as an employer and as a career choice. One of the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre's mandates is to ensure proper remuneration for the provision of a service – as anyone would expect to pay a plumber or electrician – we expect to pay an artist or creative in the same way. Creative industries, collectively, contribute billions of dollars to the Australian economy and so much more to investing in healthier, more resilient communities.

Vincenza has battled her own health issues and since her own chronic health condition improved – an outcome of advances in research and pharmacology, Vincenza has been working on a number of community arts programs.

Vincenza: 'I was diagnosed with arthritis in my early thirties, the painfully crippling condition advanced – exacerbated by violence at the hands of my partner and the brutal, parasitic legal system.'

Mending the body, the soul and the mind after trauma, isolation, poverty and homelessness meant turning her back on the life and friendships she built over 2 decades in Sydney to return to Melbourne where family could provide a roof and a bed.

A relatively brief encounter with a low-cost art program in 2007 provided much needed respite from the house-bound marginalised existence that had become the 'norm'. The social interaction, joy and creative outlet spurred her on.



Vincenza Fazzalori.

Vincenza recognised that the 2 hours weekly had become her social prescription. With clarity and determination, she has been dispensing wellness in measured doses ever since.

Catalyst for Change

Governments at all levels espouse policies in line with the World Health Organisation and Human Rights charters – but rarely do they effect real change for individuals. Lack of employment opportunities, exclusion from places and spaces through poor design, systemic discrimination and even biases within the very organisations funded to support increased access and participation for people with disabilities, often fall short.

As an active volunteer on reference groups, advisory committees and network groups in the municipalities of Brimbank, Hobsons Bay and Moonee Valley, Vincenza brings valuable CALD perspectives and an informed voice to the table.

The frustrations of repeatedly falling between the cracks - cracks constructed by others unaffected by the challenges of living a life less fulfilled drove Vincenza to re-author her own life, to create new meaning, purpose and value, as well as 'employment'.

Self-Advocacy combined with financial resourcing awarded through various community grants programs provided Vincenza with the platform to make tangible impacts in positive ways for not just herself as an artist, but the many individuals who attend the wellbeing/ social inclusion arts events and programs she designs and delivers across Melbourne's West.

She uses the arts and a community-based participatory approach to overcome economic, social, geographic, health related exclusion. The success is predicated on collaboration and partnership between artists, not for profit organisations and local government personnel to deliver social justice outcomes particularly for older people, in particular women with disability.

Vincenza demonstrates leadership and advocacy Under the entity of 'La PasseggARTa' with the tagline, bringing art and people to the streets and more recently the '**Visual Arts Together**' Program. She improves the health and wellbeing outcomes for ageing, vulnerable and marginalised communities through:

- Increasing access and availability to stimulating and enriching social and recreational opportunities
- Providing an inclusive, friendly, creative 'space' that encourages expression and social interaction
- Inclusion in mainstream community activities providing an alternative to institutional, in house-activities
- Enriching the individual experience of self and place in the wider community, thereby increasing a sense of belonging
- Offering an activity that validates and values this demographic by demonstrating to themselves and others what older/people with a disability people 'can do'
- Valuing the individual and the art process – art to be meaningful to the individual and not simply an activity to fill up their time.

Evidence informed Actions

In light of the current Royal Commissions into (i) Aged Care Quality and Safety (2018), (ii) Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability(2019) (iii) Victoria's Mental Health System (2019) and the publication of The Australian Loneliness Report (2018), programs such as **Visual Arts Together** provides a model

of best practice for radically shifting the way we think about care and services that traditionally and endemically reinforce 'constraint and limitation'. The approach delivers an innovative, inclusive, equitable and accessible program and service. It transforms the lives of individuals and more broadly, the community we share.

There are not many successes in their lives so It's a fantastic achievement to produce the art, and then to have the exhibition.

Support worker, Annecto

It isn't easy finding activities that keep them interested but this program has been really good for them all, in different ways. We leave in high spirits.

Support Worker, Scope

It's a chance to be independent and make her own decisions about what to create.

Support worker, Annecto

In addition to the intrinsic, creative value and impact of the arts programs on the lives of (extra) ordinary women who have disclosed their disability from anxiety and depression to the more complex permutations of psychological, physical, intellectual and acquired brain injury, Vincenza has been able to:

- Build the confidence and capacity of an artistically talented young woman (28 years) enabling her to move from long term unemployment into full time employment "this opportunity really added to her personal growth and self-esteem. It gave her that confidence to go beyond that volunteer role and venture out to have her own art exhibition and eventually find a full-time job".
- Influence and 'educate' the next generation of care workers aspiring to become employed in the area of



'Individual Support' through work placement agreements between the Laverton Community Education Centre and LaPasseggARTa.

Community Arts Centre, Sunshine Arts Space, Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre, Newmarket Baptist Church, Laverton Community Education Centre, St Vincent de Paul, Western Health.

"Now I know...They have the right to take part in the life of society as anyone else, they just need to be encouraged and supported to be engaged in activities that let them be active and stress-free. They don't need to be perceived as a burden or dependent on others since they are able to learn new skills and socialize with others."

- Take referrals from health clinicians as well as supporting the core work of a range of community, disability & social support organisations such as Scope St Albans, Annecto, Metro Access Officers, Arts Access Victoria, HealthWest Partnership, Doutta Galla Aged Services, Walker Close Community Centre, Cairnlea Neighbourhood House, Horsham Regional Arts Association, The Hunt Club

Participating in high profile events such as National Social Inclusion Week, the Victorian Seniors Festival and International Day of Disability, creates opportunities that cut across barriers of age, ability and cultural identity and facilitate discourse - highlighting the intersectional aspects leading to and/or exacerbating disability and challenging perceptions of what disability 'looks' like.

Whilst personally, Vincenza is still a 'work in progress', professionally she is proud to have laid the foundation for person-centred programs that have gone on to becoming sustainable in each of the 'seeded' areas - attracting financial and in-kind support from Brimbank Council, Moonee Valley's Avondale Heights Library and the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre.

"Vincenza's vision and commitment to creating confidence, connection and capacity in community through the arts has brought great value to the individuals she has engaged and the services she has collaborated with".



Vincenza with her Visual Arts Together Class at the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre 2019.

Donation Form

The Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre raises funds to help deliver quality programs and projects to the community of Hobsons Bay.

We are partly funded to deliver those programs. However, that funding only goes part way to cover the costs of delivering **low-cost programs** to those in the community who may not otherwise have access to them. It is for this reason we ask for your help. Every dollar donated to the 'Hobsons Bay Community Arts Activities Fund' is expended on the delivery of our programs with the focus on making them as low cost as possible for those in our community who would most benefit from them. Please consider helping us to help them.

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

I have made the following donation: \$ _____

BSB: 013 456
Account Number: 232621885
Name on Account: Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd
Reference: Your name

Enclosed is my tax deductible donation by cheque or money order: \$ _____

Please make cheques or money orders payable to:
Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd and post to
PO Box 583, Altona or deliver to the Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre
5 Sargood Street, Altona

A tax receipt will be issued to you as soon as possible. Please note that to claim tax deductibility this financial year (2018-2019), your donation must be received by us by June 30. Your name only will be acknowledged in the Annual Report for your donation - please tick the box below if you would like to keep your donation confidential.

Please keep my donation confidential





Hobsons Bay Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd trading as:

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