

ARTY FACTS

February, 2025

Lower Clarence Arts and Craft Association
Ferry Park Gallery PO Box 194, MACLEAN, NSW, 2463
Email: info@ferrypark.net Website: www.ferrypark.net

OFFICE BEARERS

President:

Penny Stuart

Vice Presidents:

Bobbie Winger

1 vacant position

Secretary:

Gloria Lee

Treasurer:

Gloria Lee

Gallery Coordinators:

Karin Brear

Jean Versace

**Exhibition
Coordinator**

Vacant

Minute Secretary

Suz Monin

Publicity Officer:

Di Nixon

Arty Facts:

Jean Versace

Social Media:

Suz Monin

Events coordinator:

vacant

From Our President, Penny Stuart:

Welcome to the New Year...

The Gallery has done well over the summer and all our groups are now back, refreshed and rejuvenated. It's so good having our smaller groups meeting at the gallery regularly. It adds to the atmosphere and the visitors love it!

When I walked into the gallery after being away for most of January, it looked so inviting, with Di's colourful and diverse Artist of the Month display leading the eye in...

We do have something truly unique here and all credit to everyone who contributes, our Gallery Coordinators especially, who achieve so much on that last Sat of the month!

The AGM is upon us again and will be held on

Friday, March 21st

in the Members' Room.

ALL POSITIONS ARE VACANT, so please consider a role on the committee. It can be very rewarding and change is healthy for an organisation such as ours!

Penny

**Look for the new work that has come in to the Gallery.
There's more on the way very soon.
Don't miss it.**

Artist of the Month: Dianne Nixon/DivaNix

Di creates unique and eclectic wearable art jewellery and fashion pieces from her riverside studio in Brushgrove.

Her jewellery is handcrafted using gems, glass and pearls on string, wire, leather and whatever comes to hand. Her designs are distinctive due to her use of colour, shape and texture. She blends gemstone nuggets, spiky corals, smooth glass and glossy, misshapen pearl in her distinctive and recognisable DivaNix style.

One-off scarves and wraps add another dimension to her botanical dyed silk creations, with her hand-felted designs using fine merino wool. These wearable art pieces are richly

coloured,
luxuriantly
soft, warm
and so, so
stylish.



Diane's eclectic nature means she is an op-shop tragic where she sources quality pre-loved, vintage and contemporary natural fibre clothing and household linens which she strings and wraps with Japanese Shibori techniques and then dyes in indigo.

Talk to Di about commissions, conducts workshops and visits to her riverside studio.

DivaNix Wearable Art studio is open during the Annual Clarence Valley Plunge Arts & Culture Festival, as part of the open studios programme, or by appointment, 0431 626 691.

Facebook@divanix or [Instagram@divanixdesign](https://www.instagram.com/divanixdesign)

Associated Groups' Reports:

Publicity and Social Media:

Di and Suz report continued publicity for the gallery and its participants. We had an ad in the SCENE magazine over the summer, with a new photo advertising FPG in The Independent. Social media continue to attract attention for us.

Gallery Co-ordinators:

The year began with a lovely Artist of the Month display of Karin's work, which attracted much attention from visitors and locals alike. This was followed by our current Divanix display, Di stepping in for February, to display her wonderful shawls, jewellery and dyed clothing items.

Just a reminder for all members to keep their display clean and tidy and replace their stock when on duty, if need be. Members, please check in the back office for replacement items when sales are made. If an artwork has sold, please check the sliders for that particular artist's work and replace it on the wall if you can.

Artists, make sure there is replacement work, preferably new, so a fresh array of art on our walls is there for our regular and new visitors. Also check the sliding doors for your work and take some home if they have been there for a while. The sliders are very full at the moment, so if you have more than a few there, please weed them out so others can find space.

Our Artist of the Month calendar is now complete, thanks to Denise stepping in for March. Looking forward to a great year ahead.

Karin and Jean

Art Group:

The Tuesday Arters are very happy to be together again after our summer break. Despite the heat, the hall has been quite comfortable with the fans on and a cool cross breeze. We have been very relaxed and are enjoying catching up with each other.

We are currently working towards the monthly topic of 'Our First Car' and also several are preparing works to enter in the Woolli Fundraising exhibition to be held 19-21 April.

Sandy

Patchwork and Quilting:

We held our first bi-monthly meeting two weeks ago with lots of planning for our Easter Quilt Show. We will donate profits to the Maclean Hospital Auxiliary and hold some special days through the year as fundraisers for other worthwhile organisations.

The raffle quilt should be finished next week ready to be hung in the Ferry Park Gallery foyer. Rosters are being put together so there will be someone there selling tickets each day.

We have done two in-house workshops: Applique techniques with Claudette and Confetti quilting by Neil.

Our AGM will be on March 18th where a new committee will be voted in.

Debra

Junior Art

New work has come in and gone from our Junior Art Space, which is so encouraging for our enthusiastic young artists.

Could volunteers please make sure these artists' work is entered correctly? A recent work was not recorded. No name for the work, no indication when it was received or any of its details. And no work, either. **Jean**

8x8 Small Works Exhibition 2025: "The Source"

We have only three weeks left until the closing of the 8x8 entries and unfortunately our sales are not as high as we would have liked - 130 canvases sold out of a possible 250. Reasons are unclear for the low numbers, but the ill health of some of our stalwart teachers and supporters has no doubt played a part. Perhaps we should take note for future years.

On a brighter note, completed paintings are already starting to arrive – looks as though we will have some very interesting interpretations. Instructions for accepting these paintings have been placed near the till and I would ask all volunteers to familiarise themselves with this procedure.

Our entry in “The Plunge” booklet is there for all to see, a judge has been appointed, and plans are well in hand for the official opening and prize givings on March 28th & 29th.

Official invitations for this celebration should soon be issued.

Jean and Pam

Volunteers, please find the instructions for receipt of paintings (8x8s) on the front desk next to the till.

Also that there is a marked box in the office for 8x8s received.

These will be recorded on computer before storage elsewhere.

Other Galleries’ Events

Pat Jenkins Retrospective at Cowper Gallery

Sunday last saw the opening of this wonderful exhibition of one of our valley’s truly diverse and most skilled artists. Pat’s work spans decades of excellence and renown and it was a such a joy to be able to see such a cross-section in this collection.

Thanks to her family and to Kerrie and James at Cowper Gallery for the opportunity to admire and acquire more of Pat’s work. Congratulations to you all.

Clarence Impressions at Grafton Regional Gallery

This exhibition has contributions from our own Ferry Park members and promises to be a



wonderful show of individual impressions to fascinate viewers.

Opening on March 1st, so check out the website for a booking.