

Artie Facts #36

February - March 2026

The newsletter of the Bairnsdale & District Arts Society Inc.
[Established 1981]

Sunshine Hinterland – Paul Crowe

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HOW TO SHOWCASE YOUR ART ON OUR WEBSITE

Members who would like to display samples of their artwork here for a modest fee can contact [Gary Flack at I.T.ZAP Website Design Works](#) →

From the Editor

Happy New Year everyone.

2026 is the 45th Anniversary of the opening of BADAS and we hope you will join us for some fun art experiences this year. Our first Three Month Challenge is **Flowers And Fruit** or either one and we look forward to a lot of entries.

We were very disappointed to receive the resignation of elected president, Barbara Jones, Sue Ffrench and others. We thank Barbara for her vision, enthusiasm, hard work and great ideas to move the Arts Society forward as well as being a popular tutor. Sue did an amazing range of things including Kid's Art and generally helping out and we will miss her. Congratulations and thank you to Fiona Venables who has taken on the role of president.



Congratulations to the winners of the last 3 Month Challenge announced at the Christmas Break-up.

1st Fay Coles 2nd Trish Wagstaff

Our Christmas Break-up was held in early December last year at the Arts Centre for a change. About 60 people attended and enjoyed an excellent lunch and the company of their fellow artists.

Our BIG NEWS is that our long-awaited disabled toilet facility has been installed thanks to a Federal Grant supported by Darren Chester MP and the East Gippsland Shire who were responsible for the construction. Everything went quickly and smoothly and a big thank you to Project Manager Gael Rand and John Griffiths for his design work.

We have already held our first art event this year. Branch, Brush and Brunch was held on Saturday 24th January with 15 artists attending. Thanks to Sue Ffrench and Elena Dickman for presenting this fun event which was a new concept enjoyed by all.

Visit the Art Centre and you will notice many changes. All paintings provided by demonstrating artists at workshops over the years, are now hanging in the main room. This has created a permanent gallery of works by some very well-known artists. A big thank you to Graeme Venables who climbed the ladder to hang all these painting ably assisted by Fiona Venables.

We are working to create a gallery/art space in the office room to display members' work to be open to the public. Progress reports will be issued as we work our way towards this goal.

BADAS now has a large range of art quality art supplies for sale to you at very reasonable prices. Ask your tutor about them. A price list appears on page 3. Aprons are also available.

Our workshop co-ordinator is compiling a list of attractive one day activities for the year to extend your knowledge and skills. The program will be circulated when completed.

Good painting everyone. Please remember that we are all volunteers doing our best to bring you quality art programs.

Regards

Jenni



ENTRY FORM FOR 3 MONTH ART CHALLENGE

FRUIT AND FLOWERS – This painting is called “Blush and Bloom” by Mounir Khalfour. You can interpret/portray Fruits and Flowers in any way you like, in any medium so long as all works can be hung and are no larger than 40 x 40 cm. Your painting does not have to be for sale, but can be. It may also be **FRUIT** or **FLOWERS**.

- Members only and one entry per member. Entries to be delivered to BADAS Committee Room between Monday 27th April between and Friday 1st May 10.00am and 2.00pm or by arrangement (Fiona 0417 315 009) together with \$5.00 entry fee – BADAS BSB 633 000 Account No. 100 672 757.
- **Please don't leave cash in the Committee Room.**
- **The paintings will be hung on Friday 1st May and will remain on exhibit until Saturday 30th May when the People's Choice and prize money, 1st and 2nd dependent on number of entries will be awarded. 2.00pm onwards BYO drinks and nibbles and take home your artwork.**
- Please provide a small card with the name of the artwork and a price, your name on the back of the card, these will be displayed with your artwork.
- On the 2nd page of the entry form provide a description of your ideas and processes for the painting, how did it develop? Why did you choose the subject matter? Did the finished artwork represent your initial idea?
- Your written “artist’s statement” will be displayed in a folder for the length of the exhibition and returned with your artwork if it is not sold.

Entry forms will be available at the Arts Society if you cannot download one.

Name : _____

Entry : Title _____

Medium : _____

Price : _____

Account Name : _____

BSB : _____ **Account No. :** _____

My process :

FOR SALE



Aprons with BADAS logo

Great for covering up to prevent paint splashes on clothing.
You can add your own unique paint splashes to make it your own. Two handy pockets on the front to hold a brush or two, rags etc.
\$20 will get you one of these.

Contact Jenni 0435 344 847 to arrange payment and collection on a Wednesday morning.

Art Supplies

Everything you need and too numerous to list

Canson pastel paper, large sheet	\$4
Watercolour paper 300 gsm hot pressed	\$4
Many other papers and pads	
Prismacolor Pencils	
Loose	\$2 each
Boxed sets of Prismacolors	various prices
Renoir Brushes	\$1 - \$5
Canvases	\$5
Palettes	\$10
Loose Rembrandt pastels	\$4 each
Also markers, pan pastels, ink, etc	
Gold frames various sizes	



CHRISTMAS BREAK-UP



Held in the Arts Society Hall this time, our Christmas Break-up was a huge success and a large number of members attended.
Thank you to Vivienne Willis who did a magnificent job of planning and organizing this event, preparing the meat, setting up tables etc and ensuring that everything went smoothly. Members generously provided a huge array of salads and desserts.

Thank you everyone who brought food and hopped in and helped clear up afterwards.



Next Workshop **Introduction to**

MOSAICS with FIN ROSS



Saturday 21st March – 9.30am – 4pm at BADAS

Everything provided

Cost: Members \$100 Non-members: \$110



Fin Ross took up mosaics during Covid lockdown in 2021 and quickly discovered an abiding passion for the artform. Mostly self taught, Fin now runs regular weekly classes and occasional one-day workshops at her Paynesville studio.

She enjoys sharing her skills with others and loves to see the outcomes of their visions.

Working in glass, ceramic tile and broken crockery (picassiette) her subject matter ranges from animals to quirky one-of-a-kind artworks.

At the workshop students can choose between a weatherproof, pre-cut heart or bird shape shape to adorn with colourful crockery. They will learn how to cut and shape plates and coffee mugs, using specialist mosaic tools, how to combine colours and textures and how to adhere them to the substrate to create a cohesive design.

Fin will also demonstrate how to grout, although participants won't be able to do this on the day as the adhesive needs to cure for a couple of days before grouting. Each participant will take home enough grout to complete their project at home, and each mosaic will be fitted with a hanger.

Fin will supply all tools and materials for the workshop.

Only 8 places available.



To book contact: Workshop Co-ordinator
Gael Rand: 0448 235 983

Payment to be made when booking

Payment: Cash or EFTPOS at the Arts Centre during class times

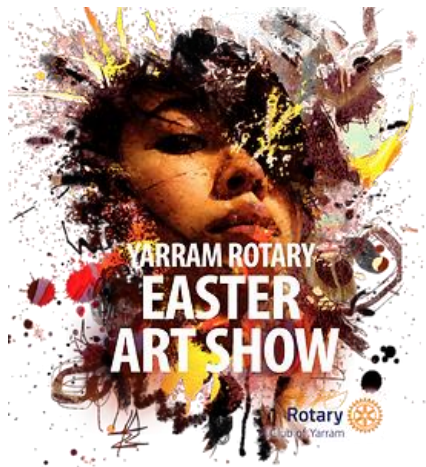
Bank transfer: **B Bendigo Bank**
BSB number 633-000
Account number 100672757
Account title Bairnsdale & District Arts Society

OUR NEW DISABLED TOILET FACILITY



The floorboards are still to be sanded and polished to match the art room floor and a new cupboard will be installed for cleaning items and related things.

This addition is a great asset to the Arts Society which will celebrate its 45th year this year.



The annual Rotary Easter Art Show is held as part of the Tarra Festival at the Regent Theatre in Yarram from 3 April to 6 April 2026

SHOW OPENING TIMES

Good Friday 3 April - 7pm GALA OPENING NIGHT

Drinks & Nibbles - \$15 Entry Fee

Saturday 4 April - 11:30am to 5:00pm Entry Fee: \$5 per person

Saturday Night 4 April - 6pm to 9pm Entry Fee: \$5 per person

Easter Sunday 5 April - 10:00am to 5:00pm Entry Fee: \$5 per person

Monday 6 April - 10:00am to 1:00pm Entry Fee: \$5 per person

ENTER ONLINE NOW yarramrotary.org.au/art-show

**Leave your entries at the Arts Society for collection on Wednesday 1st April at 10am
They will be returned on Wednesday 8th April after midday.**

DID YOU KNOW?

Faber Castell are releasing 20 NEW Polychromos pencils, curated to complement the original palette of 120 colours! Lighter colours.

I think it will be between March and September this year. This is exciting news.

There will be a full set of 140, a set of the new 20 and of course they will be available as open stock.

I've also heard that Prismacolor are going to be changing their formula on 12 basic colours, not affecting the softness but to improve the lightfast ratings of these core colours!

[I found this on FB and in an art group I belong to, Ed]



BADAS PLEIN AIR REPORT JAN 26



NUNGURNER JETTY – JG

Our visit to Nungurner Jetty last Saturday was met with a 25 knot southerly which made life somewhat difficult. Bob and I were able to shelter behind some bushes and battle on.

Several people texted a no show due to the wind, probably wise in the end, although it was just another challenge.

We both got some paint down producing two paintings each and quite a reasonable day in the end.

A reminder that I am preoccupied somewhat for probably a couple of months so anyone able to host the PA outings can give me a call.

We are sorry to hear our former president, Barbara is having some health problems and we wish her a speedy recovery.

John Griffiths

PLEIN AIR GROUP CALENDAR FOR 2026

Meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

When the weather is not favourable for outdoor painting, the group will meet at the Bairnsdale and District Art Society Hall and pay \$5 each.

We have focused on historical sites for the district as our locations for this year.

We would like to encourage as many as possible to join even if you have never been to a Plein Air group before. Come along anyway, bring something to draw or paint with and you may be surprised at how easy it is. A great way to get to know other artists and enjoy the great outdoors of East Gippsland.

You will also need to bring a chair, lunch and drink (unless the location is at a Pub where we usually dine together for lunch). We chose locations where public toilets are easily accessible.

Convenor: *John Griffiths* – 0417 316 192

DATE	LOCATION	ADDRESS
21 st February, 2026	Lindenow Pub	167 Main Street, Lindenow
21 st March, 2026	Grandview (Libby Witchell's)	Bairnsdale/Dargo Road, Glenaladale
18 th April, 2026	Bruthen	Main Street, Bruthen
16 th May, 2026	Stony Creek Trestle Bridge	Princes Highway, Nowa Nowa
20 th June, 2026	Nyerimilang Park	Cliff Road, Nyerimilang
18 th July, 2026	Blue Pools	Freestone Creek Road, Briagolong
15 th August, 2026	Waterfront Lakes Entrance	Main Street, Lakes Entrance
19 th September, 2026	Lake Tyers Beach	Lake Tyers Beach Road, Lakes Tyers
17 th October, 2026	Metung Waterfront	Metung
21 st November, 2026	Mingling Waters	Nowa Nowa
19 th December, 2026	Dargo Pub (Christmas Breakup)	Dargo

FEBRUARY PAINT OUT

Fiona reported that she, John, Oilin and Robert, plus Alison a visitor, found a shady tree looking over the river flats at Lindenow.

A 180 degree vista gave them many opportunities for a painting.



Artie Facts #36 was created and produced for BADAS by Jenni Staniforth.



BARCELONA'S SAGRADA FAMILIA NEARS COMPLETION

Here Gaudí's geometrical designs have created an oasis of light, with delicate, tree-like columns tapering off to the roof, the white stone of the interior picked out in colours from the stained glass windows.



The final piece of the central tower of Barcelona's Sagrada Família has been laid in place, bringing the church to its maximum final height 144 years after work began.

After several days when it has been too windy to work, the upper section of the 17 metre-high four-sided steel and glass cross was winched into position at 11am on Friday, completing the tower dedicated to Jesus Christ. At 172.5 metres, the Sagrada Família, to which the Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí devoted the later part of his life, is Barcelona's tallest building and the [world's tallest church](#).

As the Catalan and Vatican flags were raised, Jordi Faulí, the chief architect for the project, said: "It's been a joyful day, wonderful for all the people who have made it possible."

A ceremony to mark the completion of the tower – the tallest of 18 conceived by Gaudí – is due to take place on the centenary of Gaudí's death in 1926 on 10 June, 16 years after the church was consecrated by Pope Benedict XVI.

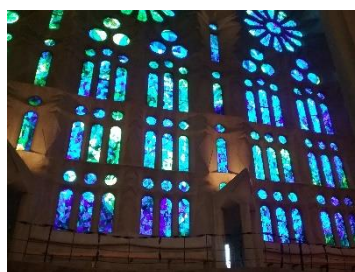
The end to the building at the church is expected in about a decade with the construction of a striking south-facing façade.

It was nevertheless a day full of emotion for a city that has lived with Gaudí's unfinished work for generations and, although there remains much work to do, the temple now defines the Barcelona skyline as much as the Eiffel tower in Paris or the Empire State building in New York.

For decades it was a building site open to the skies, where generations of stone masons and carpenters worked around the tourists who have ultimately funded the construction. It's only in the past 15 years, since work began on the breathtakingly beautiful interior, that it has felt more like a church than a building site.

The basilica is loved and loathed equally by those who live in Barcelona. George Orwell described it as "one of the most hideous buildings in the world" and regretted the anarchists did not blow it up when they had the chance.

The anarchists did, however, destroy Gaudí's drawings and the plaster model, which years later was painstakingly reconstructed. In the late 1970s, Mark Burry, a New Zealand architect, adapted rocket design software to realise Gaudí's design.



To those who claim the basilica is nothing like what was originally envisaged, Burry's retort was that Gaudí's geometry is so precise that should there be any deviation from his plan, the building would collapse.

It is, however, now the work of many hands. There are elements that jar, in particular the Passion façade, popularly known as Darth Vader façade, the work of the sculptor Josep Maria Subirachs, and yet overall it is unmistakably Gaudí's work.

Aside from finishing the details of the main tower, three artists – Miquel Barceló, Cristina Iglesias and Javier Marín – have been commissioned to present designs for the Glory façade, which is expected to take a further 10 years to complete.

The Sagrada Família is the city's top tourist attraction, with about 5 million visitors a year and an annual income of roughly €150m (£131m), about half of which has so far been spent on construction.

[Guardian 21/02/26]

[I was fortunate in visiting this magnificent building in 2016 and I expect some of you have too. Ed]

NEW 25/26 COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	Fiona Venables	0417 315 009 fiona.venablescranes@gmail.com	Kids Art, 3 Month Challenge
VICE PRESIDENT	Gael Rand	0448 235 983 gaelrand@gmail.com	Workshop Co-ordinator
SECRETARY	Laima Gascoigne	0419 309 489 laimam@optusnet.com.au	
TREASURER	Jenni Staniforth	0435 344 847 stani21@iprimus.com.au	Newsletter, membership
COMMITTEE	Gillian Banks		Contemporary Art Tutor
	Betty Du Ve		Historian & Archivist
	John Griffiths	0417 316 192 jmgriff1000@outlook.com	Plein Air