Well another year has gone by very fast; the Gallery has had many changes in the past 12 months with new members bringing in new work and new friends of the Gallery. I would like to thank the New Members who are able to do duty and the New Friends of the Gallery who are doing duty. I notice the March Roster has a lot of spaces filled and the April Roster is slowly filling.

As usual the Gallery has had great success at the Daffodil Festival along with the Woodwork Group and Painters Group.

Sadly we have also lost a few longstanding members due to ill health and change of circumstance. Elaine Stainkampf, Gwen Young, Lyn Brown, Alysia Norton. I apologise if I have missed some. I would like to thank all of you for your contributions over the years with your work and your commitment to the Gallery whether it be submitting artwork, taking on a role, doing duty.

Members Friends of the Gallery and prospective members please come along to the AGM at 10.00 am on 22nd March 2018, at the Community House for election of Office Bearers, the AGM will be followed by our General Meeting, all welcome. All positions will be declared vacant.

Display Committee needed as we are down to one – me, so if anyone is able to contribute on Tuesdays that would be great. I take the opportunity to thank Alysia Norton for her years of support as a member, and then as her role on the Display committee, Alysia spent many hours in the Gallery, cleaning windows and display, cleaning art items, cleaning the Gallery, washing towels and cleaning cloths, organising Displays, Exhibitions and the planning and co-ordination of Displays. I wish her well on her new travelling adventure.

Thank you to Teeny Talsma for your support over the last 18 months with Display Committee. Teeny has the travel bug also and will be stepping back a little from Display.

As outgoing President I would like to thank Glenice Emmerson for chairing the meetings for me.

To everyone, thank you for your support over the last year and look forward to seeing you at the AGM and General Meeting.

Regards Karen Pedretti
If you want to make time fly, consider becoming a treasurer. It's nearly always the end of the month! However, there is a predictable pattern to it, with a satisfying sigh when all the figures add up nicely at the bottom of the page. So the challenge is to be creative even when trying to be an accountant! I try to do this by looking for interesting insights that can be passed on to our members.

Looking into the figures, I have again recorded that our largest individual actual item sold remain the lovely handcrafted cards, followed by knitted/silk/sewn items including bags and purses and toys. Closely followed by our popular unique Jewellery and Wood craft including wooden toys, felt work including clothing and other items, and Xmas decorations after that. Then of course comes the large variety of unique and individual art pieces such as our paintings and mosaics, wire work, ceramics and glass, magnets and who can live without a beautiful heat bag in winter. Still there are many more items that we sell regularly, which are lovely handcrafted artworks. Well done to everyone, keep up the variety of work!

The busiest time for sales remains over the November to December Xmas period, followed by Aug/Sept whenever the Daffodil Festival heralds the start of Spring. This year we are considering becoming even more visible when the Rose Show is on, which is usually about November.

Anyway, sadly back to reality, I would like to draw attention to the fact that we are actually down on annual sales by at least 10%. Yes, it's a direct link to the shortages on our roster. Everybody's circumstances are slowly changing, so when this happens to you, please make it a priority to do your fair share at the Gallery. Generally a three hour shift is all that is required monthly; of course you are very welcome to do even more, if you can. At the AGM coming up, you can also take up a committee position. Learning a new set of skills never does anyone any harm; in fact it gives you more energy, and makes you feel alive! It's a bit like making yourself go for a walk when you are a bit tired, it actually invigorates you!

Further on the roster, if you are able to do the shift, only 15% of the retail price is retained by the Gallery as commission, otherwise 30% is kept. You can even nominate a family member to do the roster duty for you, so you can be quite creative here in need. If for some reason you are unable to do your 'duty' as long as you catch up twice in the following month, the 15% commission will stand. Or if you have been unable to swap your 'duty' with someone else, and then please just let us know what has happened, so we can be aware, life happens.

Publicity/Promotions.

We have been using our advertising budget to best advantage. Always with our exhibitions, peak visitor periods and special occasions. At the present moment, we have a colourful advertisement in the 'Coast' Magazine's Autumn Edition, an excellent read! Look out for it and start a conversation with someone! We are always looking for volunteers, who can become 'Friends of the Gallery' as well.

As the AGM draws near, I would like to thank the Gallery for the opportunity of being the Treasurer and Publicity Officer. Thank you also to the hard working executive members of the committee, including those that are moving on to other challenges. Also those feeling the effects of ongoing health issues, I especially thank you for your terrific contributions over the years. Everyone collectively has made a terrific contribution over the 2017/18 year. Gosh nearly the end of the decade! Told you the time would fly!

Patricia Hill
WOODWORKERS:

At our annual meeting in February Eric Miles was re-elected as President, Don Couper as Secretary and Glenice Emmerson as Treasurer. Annual subscriptions remain at $45 which includes the $25 LACS fee. Meetings will continue on the second Monday each month and hands on work nights will be on Tuesdays. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Woodturning lessons are available, as is assistance with other projects. Further details are available from the office bearers. Eric – 56642239, Don – 0429003776, Glenice – 56622082.

It will be all hands on deck with lots of finished wooden masterpieces on display and for sale at the Korumburra Working Horse and Tractor Rally at Nyora on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th March. The bush setting venue provides a relaxed atmosphere for visitors and exhibitors, ideal for families, with something of interest for everyone, plus food stalls.

We all need to add to the Gallery stock, as there is always a need for a wide variety of crafted wooden items.

Glenice Emmerson

PAINTERS:

We have had a couple of ‘Paint Outs’ at Inverloch, (some did a bit of swimming), we also painted at wetlands, our plan is to have a ‘Paint Out’ day once a month. We had entries in the Inverloch Art Show, and the Tarra festival Art Show.

Bev is in the process of applying for a grant for a ‘Pop-up’ exhibition. We are still meeting in the Leongatha Guide Hall.

Robyn Henn

MEMBERSHIP / ROSTER NEWS:

We have 60 members and 7 Friends of Gallery at the moment. Regarding membership, if you intend to remain a member we ask that you please have payment of $25 in by 1st May 2018. Also many thanks to all who do their share of duty; we appreciate your time very much, it means we have the gallery open more often!! Please consider trying to find a few hours a month to help, if the gallery is not open, we cannot sell your wonderful art work. We have had customers a little frustrated when they come to gallery to find it closed!

On another note, we are interested in thoughts of members regarding opening times for the Gallery, do you have any preferences or thoughts, e.g. close Monday, maybe opening Tuesday’s would suit you better or maybe Saturday afternoon and Sunday, opening times weekdays 10am-4pm all year, instead of 10am-5pm, weekends 10am-2pm. We are hoping that these extra times might suit people better to be able to help with duty. Please reply by email, in person or post to Karen Pedretti, Glenice Emmerson, Tric Hill or me.

Jenene Evans

Members are reminded to check that their artwork hasn’t been in the Gallery for more than 12 months with the exception of cards.

Creativity is contagious, pass it on.
Albert Einstein
NOTE:
Copyright policy does not permit photos of your artwork in the newsletter without your permission. Please let me know if you do not want your artwork in the newsletter.  

Jenene Evans

Members with an email address please let me know. My email is bundilla50@bigpond.com
Cheers Jenene Evans