



BICAS BITES

Now that many of us have had that first cup of post-Covid Cafe 191 coffee, we're increasingly confident our beloved Arts Centre *WILL* thrive again.

Quiet as it is in the galleries and gift shop, we're working hard behind the scenes to ensure exhibitions, attractions and activity are in place to lure back traffic and income after we re open on July 7.

It's been a tough three months for BICAS books. As for many small businesses, there's been zero cash flow – until the Working Together Groups resumed paying studio fees last week. BICAS treasurer **Steph White** and accounts manager, **Stacey Bennett** have been furiously juggling figures and seeking (and sometimes obtaining) financial lifelines of grant support. Just because the doors are closed, doesn't mean costs associated with running the Arts Centre stop. Cleaning, insurance, IT, stationery and maintenance costs prevail.

Thankfully a MBRC Community Grant will see new toilets installed in the studio wing. But, simultaneously almost \$1000 of plumbing repair was needed in the Gallery toilets.

The many signs, procedures and processes required by Government to safely conduct business here are comprehensive and time-consuming to organise and display. Volunteers supervisor **Di Carr** has been punctilious with this and also in organising training sessions in the coming weeks for all the Café and Arts Centre volunteers.

Please ensure you are booked in for one of these. Apart from refreshing front desk sales procedures, the sessions will include reminders on the Covid safety practices we are obliged to follow and demonstrate.

On a lighter note, seeing the majority of the Working Together Groups resuming their weekly studio meets has been a true joy. Combined with the smell of the Café brew and **chef Corey's** fresh baking, the laughter and chat coming from the art rooms this past week has been heart warming indeed.



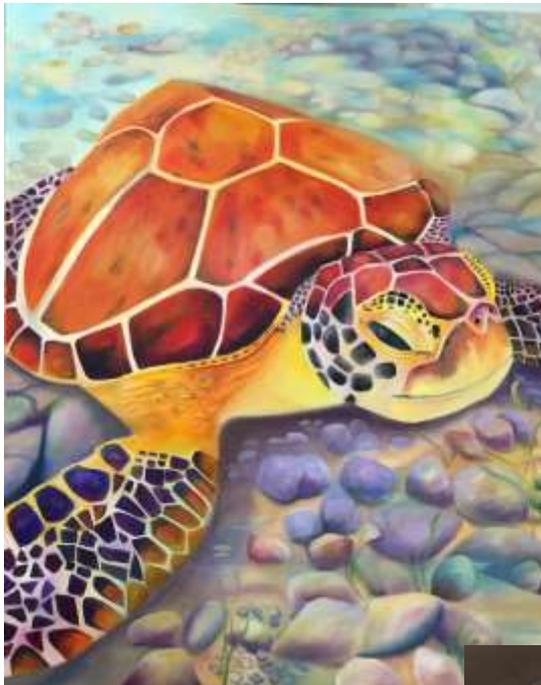
So too, are the many wonderful art projects you've shown me: like **Dina Breen's** charming gourd trinket boxes; **Lynda Jones's** mosaics; **Island**



Quilter Dot has made a charming scrap quilt for the Caboolture Hospital nursery, while fellow quilter **Ellen** has turned out this delightful cushion.

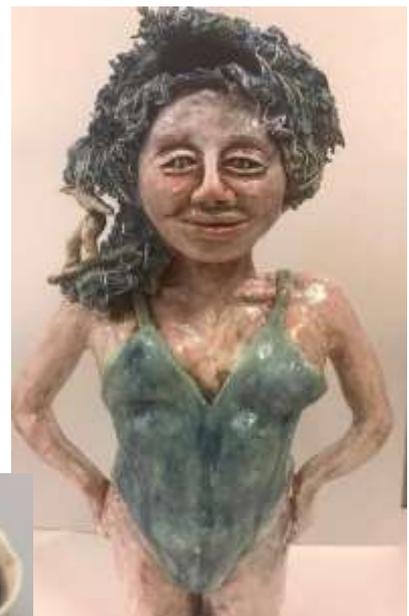


Painter **Suzanne Dennis** has turned her brush to turtles; **Bronwyn Doherty** has gone *waay* out of her



usual medium with her arresting clay figure. **Annette Wilson** from **Tuesday Sewing Ladies** refashioned a felt scarf into a pair of **cosy moccasins**.

Coloured and patterned with various vegetable dyes, they are far too interesting to sole, so they're strictly indoor apparel.





After a mammoth scrub and wipe, **Cafe 191** reopened last week. Thirsty



customers fell in with the doors, so to speak, and volunteers **Lyn Buck, Prim Rogers-Walker, Ann Sweeny and Di Carr** cut a dash in the bright new aprons embroidered



with Cafe 191



logo. Artist and BICAS Board member **Sue Davy** couldn't resist the smell of the freshly baked carrot cake, so she was first at the till. The Cafe opens **9 -2 Tuesday to Fridays** until the Centre reopens.



Speaking of things new, painter and **BICAS Board Member Nada Griffiths** recovered the stained armchairs in the Centre gallery and gift shop, put to shame by the new carpet, laid in downtime. The new covers look fabulous. Thank you,



Nada. Outside, **Allan Carr** has beavered away in the Warwick Spencer gardens adjoining the Centre, pulling out the pesky "mother of millions" weed that's proliferated there.

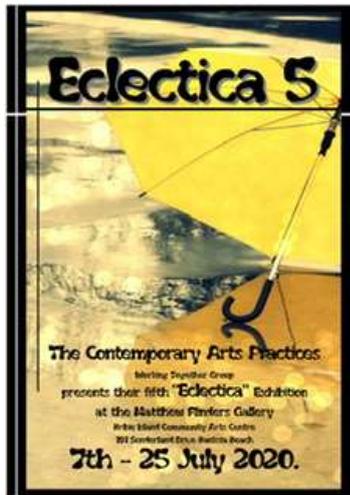
Allan and Di Carr have spent many Saturdays on their knees getting on top of this pest, in readiness for a BICAS volunteer gardening team to maintain this lovely area. If you'd like to be one of these, please

contact **Julie**, on

venuemanager@bribieartscentre.com.au

Now that we're counting the **July 7** re opening of the Galleries and Gift Shop in days rather than weeks, the **Contemporary Arts Practices group**, led by **Sue Davy**, is preparing for the first post-Covid closedown exhibition, **Eclectica 5.**

And the **Zen Doodles** still



come. Look at these great designs from **Cheryl Mortimer**. All the Zens will be on the **Artist of the Month wall in August**. If you had a 2020 booking for the AoM wall, please be sure to contact **Dianne Hampson** on info@bribieartscentre.com.au about the schedule, which has changed.

Mindful of warnings about "second wave" Covid-19 infections, please continue to TAKE CARE and BE VIGILANT with all safety and hygiene practices we've put in place.

We've come so far to do so well through this dreadful pandemic. Let's not undo it with careless and indifferent attitudes. **WASH YOUR HANDS.** **KEEP YOUR DISTANCE. STAY AWAY IF YOU ARE SICK.**



It's my pleasure to see you all here again.

Julie