OCTOBER 2026

NEWSLETTER

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"Note that creativity requires bravery and overcoming self-doubt."

– HENRI MATISSE & VINCENT VAN GOGH

Hello members,

And just like that, another exhibition has come to a close. What a wonderful display of talent and color it was. We welcomed over 300 visitors, and it was a pleasure to see people pausing to admire and contemplate our creations. Congratulations to the members who sold paintings and won prizes. Here are a few highlights from the exhibition:

- Total # of visitors: 301
- Total # of artists: 40
- Total # of paintings exhibited: 163
- Total # sold: 28 paintings and 44 cards

Votes for paintings and artists:

- Highest overall votes for all works: Karen Hough
- Highest votes for a single painting: Swan River Crabbing by Denise Smith

Congratulations to the winners — well deserved.

A special mention also goes to the following artists, who received a significant number of votes in no particular order. Your artwork was much appreciated:

- Anne Marie Bloor — Reggie
- Jean Wilson — Cheeky Chick
- Lesley Byfield — Moody Seascape
- Madelyn Rensburg — She Sees Tomorrow
- Nic Wooller — Pinkys and Out on a Limb
- Roger Davis — Daybreak
- Suzie Logue — West End Rotto
- Trish Bonciani — Kooka and Dune Walk

Finally, a huge thank you to Exhibition Manager Netti Brown, Annis Woods, the exhibition sub-committee, and all the helpers who worked so hard to organise this event and ensured everything ran smoothly..

Madelyn Janse van Rensburg
President

Dates for the diary!

Social painting dates

Wednesday 4 November, 9.30am – 12noon
Thursday 19 November, 1pm – 3.30pm

at Beaumaris Community Centre, Constellation Drive, Ocean Reef.

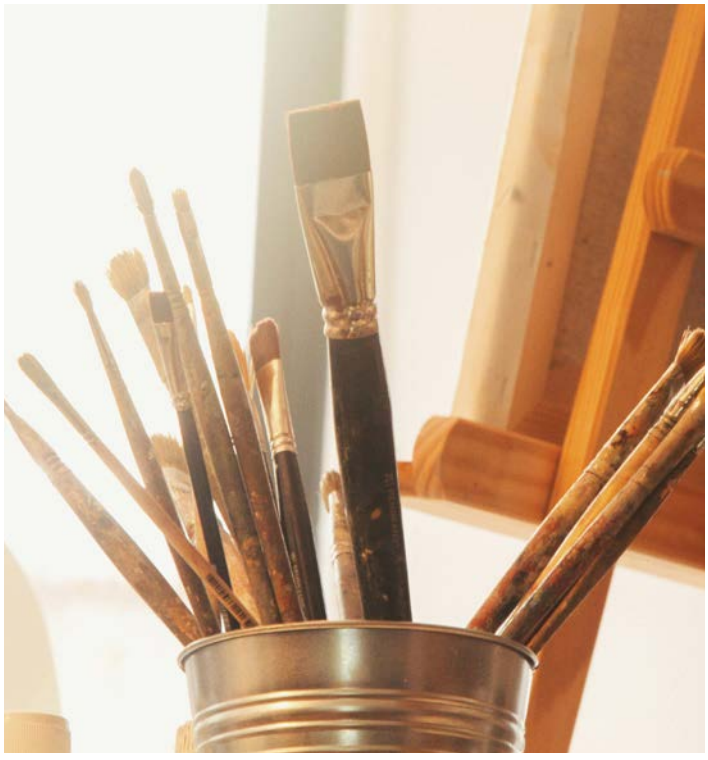
Note: Please remember to bring your cup/ mug if you would like some tea or coffee while at the session.

Workshop Mixed Media – Still Life with Karen Frankel
Saturday 14 November 2026 – 12.30-4.30pm
Currambine Community Centre, Room 1

End of Year Party 2026
Sun 22 Nov 26 – 12.30-4.30pm
Bramston Park Community Facility
(more information last page)



Exhibition March 2027
20-21 March 27
Charles Riley CC in City of Stirling



Paintbrush buccaneers take on Shoalwater!

Four days of art, inspiration, friendship and a little mischief!

St. John of God Retreat & Conference Centre. Shoalwater
October 15th to 19th 2026

Having never attended an artists' getaway before and still considering myself a relative newcomer to the wonderful world of art, I really didn't know what to expect. Now, having returned, I wonder whether words can adequately capture what a truly memorable experience it has been!

With cars filled to the brim with easels, canvases, paints and brushes, twelve enthusiastic "Paintbrush Buccaneers" rolled into Shoalwater, one of Rockingham's most beautiful seaside treasures.

And from the moment we arrived, we were spoiled!

Three spacious, beautifully appointed houses set within immaculate gardens became our home away from home. Across the road, crystal-clear waters stretched towards Penguin Island and Seal Island. Peace, tranquillity and natural beauty surrounded us. It was as though we had stepped into our own little creative bubble, where the outside world could wait.

And perhaps the greatest luxury of all? **There was no agenda. We chose to choose!**

Morning walks, a dip in the ocean (by one of our bravest souls!), cameras capturing endless inspiration, brushes dancing across canvases in the art room or en plein air in the gardens or on the beaches — everyone followed their own creative rhythm. There was no pressure, no expectation, no right or wrong way to spend the day. Just the freedom to explore, experiment, observe and enjoy.

Of course, certain pleasures brought us all together! Delicious catered lunches, sundowners, superb dinners, inspiring Mark Waller videos, a demonstration by Margaret Coxall, and conversations that flowed as freely as the occasional glass of wine. Stories were shared, laughter was plentiful, and with each passing day, friendships grew a little stronger.



We also found ourselves sharing the venue with machine embroidery enthusiasts, working from early morning until well into the night. Their dedication put our leisurely artistic pursuits somewhat to shame — but what a joy to witness such passion!

And then there were the shopping expeditions! Rockingham's art suppliers may well need time to replenish their stocks after our enthusiastic raids on canvases, paints and all those irresistible artistic necessities!







Birthdays added another special dimension, including a rather daring early-morning clandestine mission involving dressing gowns, a pair of scissors and some magnificent garden roses. Our intentions were entirely honourable — a birthday surprise for a fellow artist! Unfortunately, the machine embroiderers were already hard at work, as were some of the hotel staff, and perhaps even a few CCTV cameras! Still, we decided that asking forgiveness might be easier than asking permission. After all, what's a little jail time between artistic friends?

I may not have produced a mountain of paintings, but I came home with something equally valuable.

I discovered that sometimes the greatest inspiration comes not from what is on the canvas, but from the beautiful people holding the paintbrushes.

For me, this getaway captured the very essence of what our art club stands for. A place where we can learn, create, share and grow — not only as artists, but as friends.

To my eleven fellow "Paintbrush Buccaneers", thank you for four unforgettable days of creativity, generosity, companionship and laughter. I came home with wonderful memories and a heart full of gratitude.

Renata Downing
Workshop Manager









Workshop Wrap Up - Celebrating what we created, learned, and shared

A CROWN FOR EVERY ARTIST!
KING PROTEA ACRYLIC WORKSHOP WITH VICKI NICHOLSON
Sunday 25th October

I'm the King Protea ... I'm special and unique, even the rose respects me, I'm the King Protea." — ZV Tyobo

Our artistic challenge was simple enough — to create a King Protea worthy of its crown! But as we were soon to discover, bringing this magnificent flower to life would take patience, observation, a little artistic courage and, above all, a willingness to trust the process.

The morning began with the familiar buzz of excitement. Tables were being arranged, paints and brushes unpacked, greetings exchanged and conversations flowing. Amidst all this cheerful commotion, our wonderful coach, Vicki Nicholson, slipped into the room almost unnoticed — like a gentle breeze drifting through the shrublands where these magnificent flowers grow.

But there was no time to waste! While some of us were still finding our chairs, Vicki was already moving from table to table, helping us transfer the outline of our King Protea onto our prepared and painted canvases. And then, almost as if someone had turned down the volume, the atmosphere changed.

The King Protea was about to reveal itself — one layer at a time.

Vicki introduced us to a little secret weapon — Jo Sonja's Magic Mix! And magic it certainly seemed to be, as we discovered how this medium helped our colours glide, blend and build beautifully on the canvas.

We began gently, with delicate washes of white and crimson creating the softest pink foundations for the spectacular crown of bracts. Creamy whites, blush pinks and hints of rich crimson began to emerge. Then came the heart of the flower, its intricate centre brought to life with touches of white and yellow.

Our foundations were laid. But there was much more to come!

Layer upon layer, the magic unfolded.

A little more crimson here. A touch of umber there. Deeper shadows began to separate the bracts, giving each its own shape and character. What had started as a collection of simple outlines slowly developed depth, and dimension.



Vicki demonstrated the delicate art of dry brushing, allowing us to capture those subtle touches of light that dance across the flower's surfaces. Then came the fascinating centre — hundreds of tiny individual flowers clustered together — where double-loading our brushes helped create fine streaks and intricate detail.

And just when we thought our proteas were looking rather splendid, out came the palette knives! With a few carefully placed strokes and gentle dragging effects, we introduced yet another dimension of texture and interest. Finally, delicate white highlights traced the edges of the bracts, bringing definition and a beautiful finishing flourish to our magnificent crowns.

Throughout the morning, heads were bent in concentration, brushes moved with care, and each artist became absorbed in the quiet pleasure of creating.

Perhaps the most wonderful part was that, although we were all following Vicki's guidance and working from the same design, no two King Proteas were quite alike.

Some were bold and dramatic, their crimson crowns commanding attention. Others were soft and delicate, with gentle pinks and creamy highlights. Each had its own personality and perhaps a little reflection of the artist who created it.

A beautiful arrangement of fresh King Proteas graced our workshop tables, reminding us of the extraordinary beauty and complexity of nature's original masterpiece. Yet, by the end of the day, we had created a whole new garden of our own!





A room full of artists. A garden full of colour. And every King Protea wearing its crown with pride!

A heartfelt thank you to Vicki Nicholson for sharing her knowledge, techniques and gentle guidance so generously. You reminded us that sometimes the greatest artistic rewards come not from rushing towards the finished painting, but from slowing down, observing and enjoying every brushstroke along the way.

We came together to paint a flower. We left with new skills and beautiful artwork.

And I think every artist earned their crown today!

Renata Downing
Workshop Manager





Next on the workshop table
Meet the artist • Discover the Medium – Join Us

Mixed Media – Still Life with Karen Frankel

Saturday 14 November
Time: 12:30pm - 4:30pm
Currambine Community Centre - Main Hall
$10 for Members $30 non members to cover some paints that will be provided.
Bookings Essential - Places Limited - FIRST COME FIRST SERVED

One last creative adventure before we close the year!

Well, fellow artists, here we are! Our final workshop of the year — and what a wonderful opportunity to finish on a creative high!

Throughout the year, we have explored different mediums, challenged ourselves, discovered new techniques and, perhaps most importantly, learned that sometimes the greatest artistic discoveries happen when we dare to let go of the familiar.

So, for our grand finale, we are bringing something a little different to the workshop table!

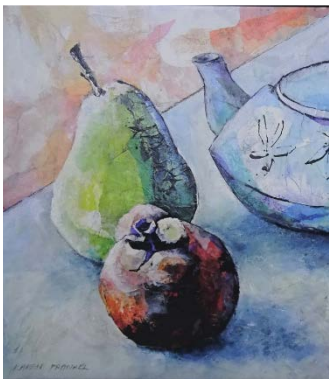
Mixed Media — where drawing, colour, texture and imagination come together, and where there are no rigid rules about how art should be created.

We are delighted to welcome the highly respected Western Australian artist KAREN FRANKEL, who will guide us through her distinctive approach to mixed media still-life painting. Whether you love drawing, think you cannot draw, or simply enjoy experimenting with different materials, this promises to be an exciting afternoon of discovery, creative freedom and perhaps a few delightful surprises!

Meet your coach: Karen Frankel

Karen is an established Western Australian artist and art teacher with over 25 years of experience. Known for her distinctive mixed media techniques, Karen creates richly layered works on canvas using acrylic inks, paint, tissue, charcoal and graphite. Her artistic approach explores the relationship between shapes, colour, tone and texture, building depth and interest through layers of materials and expressive marks. Since 2020, Karen has taken her creativity in another exciting direction — fused glass. Applying many of the same principles of layering, colour and texture, she translates her artistic language into beautiful glass creations. member of the West Australian Society of Arts, Karen also founded Galleria Art Studio in 2003, sharing her knowledge and encouraging others to discover their own creative abilities.









What will we explore?

“But I can’t draw!”

How often have we heard those words? Perhaps you have even said them yourself!

Karen believes that drawing need not be a frightening, painstaking or overly careful process. In fact, it can be quite the opposite — spontaneous, expressive and wonderfully liberating.

During this workshop, Karen will demonstrate how drawing can become an integral part of mixed media painting, rather than something that must be mastered before you begin. Working with a simple still-life composition, we will explore ways of combining shapes, tones, textures and different materials to create interesting and individual artworks.

This is an opportunity to experiment, loosen up, discover new possibilities and perhaps challenge a few preconceived ideas about what you can — or cannot — do!

After all, creativity isn’t always about getting everything right. Sometimes it is about discovering what happens when we allow ourselves to play.



What to bring

Your own source material.

Choose one of the following:

- A printed photograph of a simple still life or flowers/garden scene, preferably with clearly defined shapes and tones.
- An image selected from a website such as Unsplash – Still Life.
- Your own objects to create a simple still-life arrangement. For example, a cup and saucer with an apple, a bowl with a single piece of fruit, a small vase of flowers, or a plate with two field mushrooms and a brown onion (see reference photos enclosed).

Your painting surface

A primed board or stretched canvas, approximately A3 size (29.7 × 42 cm). Please do not bring paper as your painting surface.

Painting mediums

Bring one or more of the following:

- Acrylic paints, strong watercolour or gouache, Acrylic or Indian ink, Pastels, pencils or charcoal for mark-making

Papers and collage materials

Bring any interesting paper scraps you may have — rice paper, brown paper, newspaper, doilies or even pieces of previous artwork on paper that didn't quite turn out as planned.

Who knows? Something you once considered unsuccessful might find a wonderful new purpose!

Essential items

- PVA glue and a container for diluting it
- Brushes for ink and a separate brush for glue
- Sticks for mark-making
- Spray bottle with water

A selection of materials supplied by Karen

Karen will provide some acrylic ink, Indian ink, wax candles and assorted coloured tissue paper. Some glue will also be available, but please bring a small container, such as a clean yoghurt cup, to hold it.

Also Pack

- Water jars and paper towels, desktop easel, apron and plastic table covering, hair dryer

Refreshments

Tea, coffee, milk, sugar and biscuits will be provided. Please remember to bring your own mug.

A little something extra!

GET DRAWING! (even if you think you can't)

In 2020, Karen published her book Get Drawing! (even if you think you can't), drawing on her extensive teaching experience and her understanding of why so many people believe they have no drawing ability.

The book encourages readers to overcome those doubts and discover that drawing is a skill they can explore and enjoy.

Karen will have copies available for purchase at the workshop at the special price of $30.00, with EFTPOS/credit card facilities available.

For a little preview, visit:

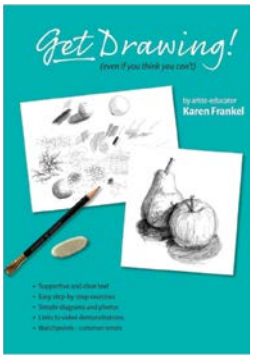
https://www.karenfrankel.com/get-drawing-book

Let's finish the year creating!

One final afternoon to explore, experiment, learn something new and enjoy the company of fellow artists.

Come with an open mind, a little curiosity and a willingness to let your creativity lead the way.

Let's make our final workshop of the year one to remember!



BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL – PLACES LIMITED

Renata Downing
Workshop Manager

Book your seat by clicking on the link or scan the QR code by **Wednesday 11 November**.

https://nettib.wufoo.com/forms/workshop-registration

Don't forget to become a member of our Facebook page.

North Coast Art Club Inc | Facebook

The NCAC has two facebook accounts. We have a public page which is where we advertise our exhibitions. Then we have our members group which is private this is where we can discuss, get opinions or advice, share photos, share good ideas, advise social painting days etc. We would love to see that member-only group grow even more - perhaps it's a place where our members can sell art items they no longer need - an easel perhaps, or paints and mediums no longer required. Its an effective way for our members to benefit even more from each other and the art club. If you arent already a member, please click on the link above and apply to join - its very easy!





Welcome to the Club

We are very pleased to have 6 new members join us this month.

Dianne Milne	Judith Jacobs
Emily Walkerden	Trudi Nell
Gabby White	Wendy Mier

Upcoming events for the month are advertised in our Newsletter and there is usually a link to click for registering to attend. Its always on a first come first serve basis so be sure to keep your eyes open for the newsletters each month and save it so you can refer back to details of the events you have booked.

If there is anything you are unsure of i.e. what do I need to bring to a workshop? or Directions to a venue?

Just email us @ northcoastartclub@gmail.com and we will get back to you

Reminders

Wednesday/Thursday Social Painting BYO

Free for members and **$5** for non members

Some dates are subject to change so keep an eye on upcoming newsletters and the Facebook page for any updates.

Saturday and Sunday Workshops/ Demo costs

Free for members and **$20** for non-members

*Unless otherwise advised for special workshops **or** when presenter is providing material, there will be an additional cost*

RSVP is vital to secure your spot

Please Note: there will be a **$10** no show fee

Note: Please remember to bring your cup/mug if you would like some tea or coffee while at the session. Also please remember to bring a plastic sheet with you to protect the tables.

Some non NCAC exhibitions and workshops you may like to enter/attend.

Enjoy painting/drawing with Mandurah Plein Air Group at Buckingham House

Tuesday 24 November 2026, 10am to 2.30pm
10 Neville Drive, Wanneroo
Please park on Scenic Drive, near Neville Park.

Create Plein Air art in lovely surrounds. Having recently run a very successful Plein Art Festival, they will have tons of tips to share.

FREE EVENT

Mandurah Plein Air Group will be at Buckingham House throughout the day to provide advice and guidance with your artwork. Enjoy the beautiful grounds of Buckingham House, the school house and farm machinery shed whilst getting your creative juices flowing!

BYO water bottle, lunch, sunscreen and your art weapon of choice (easels and other art equipment)

Age 16+

Limited places so you will need to book. Hit this link

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/2003443667942?aff=oddtdtcreator











JACKSONS
Supporting Creativity

Don't miss out on these great workshops!

Discover, learn, and be inspired with our ever-changing program of workshops and demonstrations at Jacksons. From **hands-on creative sessions** to expert-led demonstrations - each workshop is a chance to **develop your skills**, try new techniques, and connect with **fellow creatives** in a welcoming environment.

As spaces can fill quickly, bookings are essential. To secure your place, please refer to the booking details listed for each event and contact the relevant store directly via our workshops page.

https://www.jacksons.com.au/workshops

End of Year Party 2026

Sunday 22 November – 12.30-4.30pm
Bramston Park Community Facility

Dear Members

Please join us for the end of year party where we will be supplying food, wine, soft drinks, tea and coffee. Join in the fun and games, partners welcome.

RSVP by **15th November latest** , by email to **northcoastartclub.wa@gmail.com** letting us know for catering purposes if you are bringing partner and if there are any dietary requirements

Tis the season to be jolly

