

Welcome
to the Creative Samford Inc

Summer

2025
Newsletter

Welcome to all our members and new members: Anna Johnson, Kerri Phillips, Kim Morris, Judy Worsley, Peta Turner, Jen Cass, Neralie Humphries, Barbara Rushe, Tarik Ibrahim, Juana Benado, Leonie Seabrook and Michele McWilliams Marnie Cruickshank, Kylie Brice, Gabi Mika-McNaughton, Leonie Thurgood, Majella Holton, Hosanna Smith, Colleen Lavender, Magdalena Marciniak

Forward from the President

As we approach the end of another remarkable year at Samford Creative, I'm deeply grateful for the creativity, resilience, and dedication of our Management Committee, Members, supporters, and wider community. This year has shown us the power of collaboration, care, social-connection and creativity that truly bind us together.

Our calendar is full of festive events to close the year:

This Saturday: Creative Samford presents Christmas Wish at Christmas in the Village, plus purchase our 2025 CSI Artist Pack and a mini artist market.

Next weekend: Our Christmas Party at The Good Egg Gallery with an art swap (thanks to our social committee), and the final Art Trails Sub-Committee meeting.

The year's end is a time to reflect and look ahead with renewed energy. In 2026, we'll continue building momentum, embracing new challenges, and celebrating the unique talents that make our community unique.

Thank you for your commitment and creativity. Wishing you a joyful and restful holiday season and a new year filled with promise and possibility.

2026 Trails Subcommittee and Trails Coordinator

We are delighted to introduce to you our 2026 volunteer, passionate and positive subcommittee members Cynthia Werchon, Lana De Jager, Ian North, Pam Taylor and Pia Robinson, alongside our newly appointed Trails Coordinator, Lucy Thompson. The sub-committee have been working hard on venues, design, audience and artist experiences and more. The 2026 event has grown to include the highest number of artists yet! Stay tuned in to our socials to hear more. A BIG THANKS to City of Moreton Bay for their support of the 2026 even through their Community Grant.



Creative Samford Shines a Light on Community Wishes at Christmas in the Village

This December, the heart of Samford Village will once again come alive with festive cheer during the much-loved *Christmas in the Village* Street celebration. Among the many vibrant stalls, performances, and family-friendly activities, one initiative will shine bright for its heartfelt community spirit, Creative Samford's "Christmas Wish" Community art project.

Creative Samford, a local volunteer-run, not-for-profit arts collective, has been working on creating a beautiful angel where the community will be invited to add their wishes for our community to a paper feather and add to the growing wings. Creative Samford's "Christmas Wish" project invites visitors of all ages to contribute their hopes, dreams, and festive wishes to a growing art installation that will be unveiled during the event. Whether it's a wish for peace, joy, or simply a good mango season, each contribution becomes another feather in a larger tapestry of community expression.

Volunteers from Creative Samford have been working in the lead-up to the event, building the community wish collector in the form of an angel. On the night, community are invited to make a contribution with these wishes are being transformed into an evolving artwork that reflects the collective voice of Samford's residents. The final piece will be displayed prominently on Main Street during the festival, offering a moment of reflection and connection amid the holiday hustle.

"Art has the power to bring people together," says Pia Robinson, President of Creative Samford. "This project is about more than just creativity, it's about community, hope, and the joy of sharing something meaningful with our neighbours."

Creative Samford's "Christmas Wish" initiative is just one of many highlights at this year's *Christmas in the Village*, which will take place on Saturday, December 6th from 5:00 to 8:30 PM. The event promises a magical evening filled with artisan markets, live music, festive food, and family entertainment. From fire twirling and fairy floss to petting zoos and craft workshops, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Creative Samford's presence at the event is a reminder of the important role the arts play in community life. Through projects like "Christmas Wish," they continue to inspire connection, creativity, and celebration in the Samford Valley. Creative Samford will also have a stall by local artists to support at the event.

So come along, make a wish, and be part of something truly special this Christmas.



Photos from the 2024 event



Creative Samford End of Year Christmas Celebration

You are warmly invited to join us for the Creative Samford End of Year Christmas Celebration, a wonderful opportunity to connect, relax, and celebrate another inspiring year together.

Event Details:

Location: The Good Egg Gallery, 345 Mt Glorious Road, Samford

Date & Time: Saturday, 13 December, 1:00pm – 3:30pm

RSVP: Please confirm your attendance or send apologies via the link below by **Friday, 11 December**.

RSVP via [link here](#) - Creative Samford end of year celebration 2025
– Fill in the digital form

We would love for you to share a brief snapshot of your recent artistic creations, projects, or highlights with fellow members.

Please also bring a small gift—ideally something handmade or created by you. If this isn't possible, an alternative small gift is perfectly fine for our #ArtSwap

To assist with catering, please bring a simple plate of nibbles to share for afternoon tea. A chilled non-alcoholic fruit punch, tea, and coffee will be provided. If you'd like to enjoy something else, you're welcome to bring your own alcoholic beverage. Don't forget to wear your name badge if you have one.

A heartfelt thank you to Deb Pettigrew from Good Egg Gallery, Creative Samford member and our generous hostess, for welcoming us into The Good Egg Gallery. With its cosy front veranda and spacious lawn, it will be the perfect setting for our gathering. The Gallery is open to the public until 3pm, but Deb has kindly offered for us to stay on and socialise until around 4pm.

There is ample off-street parking adjacent to the Gallery for those who haven't visited before.

We look forward to celebrating with you and hope to see you there!

Warm regards,
The Creative Samford Committee & Social Events Team





MEMBER NEWS:

Creative workshop with The Culture Crusader and artist Bruce Ellem

Bruce is being commissioned to create new artwork for City of Moreton Bay's Outdoor Gallery at Pine Rivers Park.

The Culture Crusader and Bruce are hosting a workshop inviting locals to experience his artistic process.

The workshop will begin with fun drawing warm-ups to spark your creativity and help you see the world in new ways. Then, you'll use that inspiration to design your own symbol that represents what City of Moreton Bay means to you.

Each creative artwork made by participants will join together to form a larger piece that celebrates our community.

About the facilitator

Bruce was born in 1953 with Down Syndrome and is a thoughtful artist who creates colourful drawings. His creations are filled with joyful shapes, patterns and imaginative creatures. Inspired by animals and prehistoric forms, Bruce's artwork celebrates creativity and connection.

His process is calm and focused, using many pens and pencils to build layers of colour and symbols. Bruce's art invites others to see the world through his unique and vibrant vision

Dates and locations

When: Thursday, 15 January 2026 | 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Location: Park Studio, 125 Gympie Road, Strathpine 4500.

When: Wednesday, 18 February 2026 | 04:30 PM - 06:00 PM

Location: Arana Hills Library, 63 Cobbity Crescent, Arana Hills 4054.

<https://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Events/Bruce-Ellem-Workshop>



Kids workshop:

Bring your bestie! with The Culture Crusader

Participants are invited to create a portrait of a special someone in their lives in this collaborative drawing workshop.

Social connections are the foundations of our lives. In this participatory workshop, you will be introduced to two besties who work together as artists - Pia Robinson (The Culture Crusader) and Martin Edge.

Participants are encouraged to bring along someone special or use the workshop as an opportunity to meet someone new. Friendships come in many forms and we look forward to celebrating those connections in this workshop.

Cost: \$5.00 - bookings essential. Ages 7+.

When: Wednesday, 21 January 2026 | 01:30 PM - 02:15 PM

Wednesday, 21 January 2026 | 02:15 PM - 03:00 PM

Location: Redcliffe Art Gallery, 1 Irene Street, Redcliffe, 4020.

<https://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Galleries-Museums/Events/RAG/Kids-Workshop-Bring-Your-Bestie>

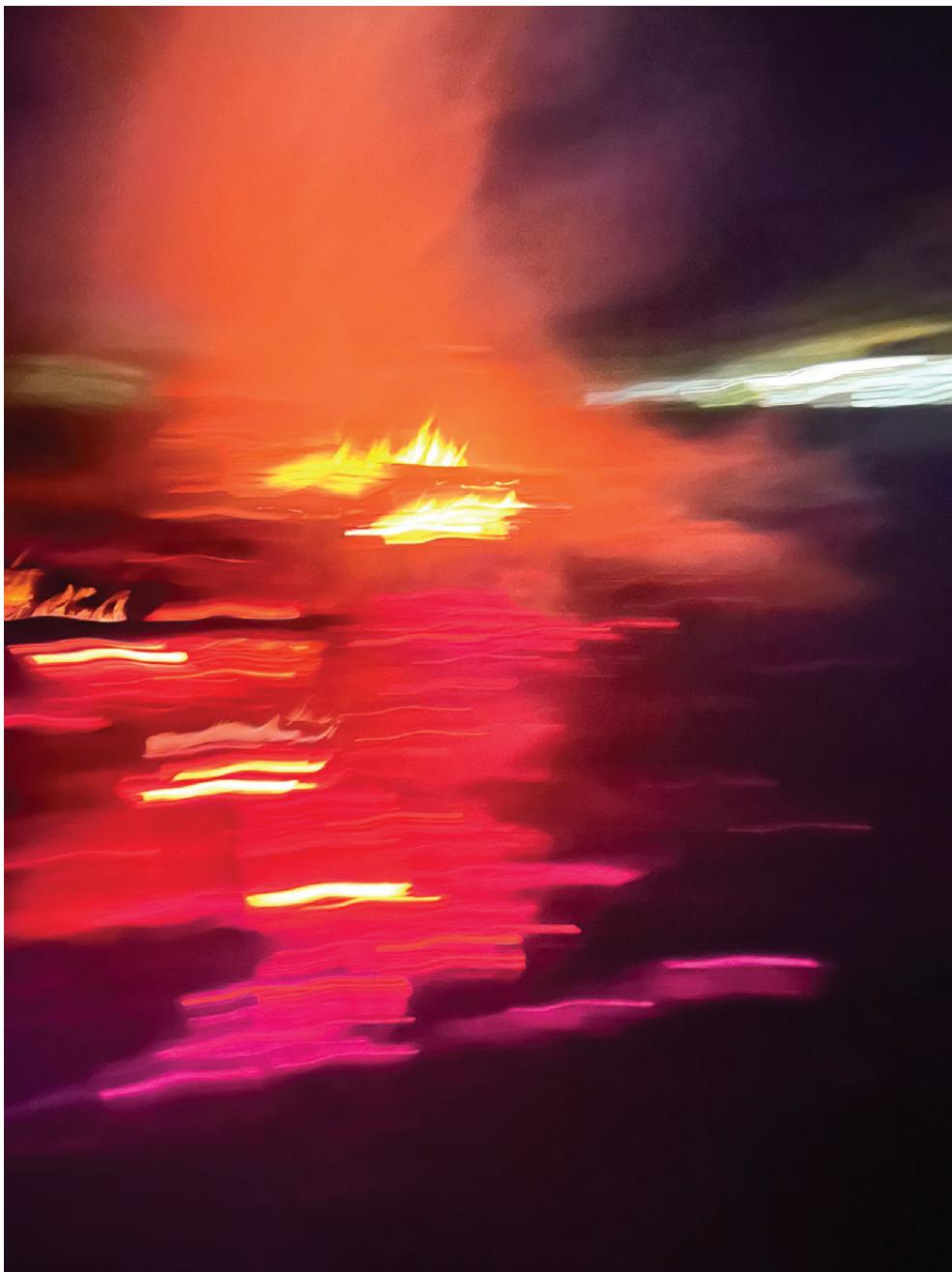


MEMBER NEWS:

Kylie Harris grant success!

In September, Kylie Harries was awarded a Continue Creating Concept Development grant through the City of Moreton Bay RADF program. The concept draws upon Kylie's lived experience as a farmer in regional Queensland and the archival histories of her great aunt Grace Jennings Carmichael - a nurse and published poet active in the late 1800s/early 1900s. The grant funded mentoring and enabled time and space to undertake research and experimentation. The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the

Queensland Government and City of Moreton Bay to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.



Detail from Infinite Vague and Yearning Thoughts, digital work

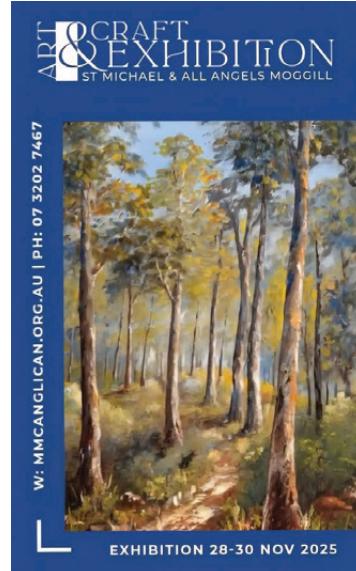


MEMBER NEWS:



Ian North - a Winner in Watercolours

A huge congratulations to Ian North on taking out First Prize in Watercolours at the Art and Craft Exhibition, Moggill - what an incredible achievement over the weekend! Both SOLD!





MEMBER NEWS:

2024 Autism Queensland's Parent/Carer of the Year Award to our very own Pia Robinson!

Congratulations Pia! What an inspirational story. You can also read about and like Pia's post [here](#).

The Culture Crusader's post

 The Culture Crusader is with Martin and friends. 1d · 

✨ It's taken me a whole year to write this post... ✨

On 3 December 2024 (last year's International Day of People with Disability), I was deeply honored to receive **Autism Queensland**'s Parent/Carer of the Year Award.

This recognition came after a journey that began with a very personal challenge finding sensory-safe spaces in the cultural and public sector for our neurospicy family.

Instead of waiting for change, I decided to empower change, working with incredible collaborators to make inclusion a reality.

That mission led to what we believe is Australia's first semi-permanent quiet room in an art gallery in 2023 in **City of Moreton Bay**'s Pine Rivers Art Gallery, a small but powerful step toward creating public spaces where neurodivergent families can belong, connect, play, and creatively express themselves. Great news is that City of Moreton Bay made the decision to convert this into a permanent space for future families to enjoy.

I'm humbled that my husband nominated me for this award, acknowledging not only my advocacy but my role as a mother determined to make a difference.

This mission is ongoing in my local community under The Culture Crusader, making art accessible through:

- Taking art outside the gallery
- Bringing creativity into the community through artist-led experiences
- Collaborating with stakeholders with lived experience
- Offering a diversified engagement & communication model to maximise reach & participation
- Forging connections between the arts, tourism & disability sectors

To the partners, sponsors, donors, collaborators, mentors and families who have walked this path with me, thank you.

#InclusionMatters #Neurodiversity #ArtForAll #AutismAwareness #CultureCrusader #InternationalDayofPeopleWithDisability



Fresh Eyes 2025

Fresh Eyes is a biennial exhibition that invites four artists to respond to the evolving landscape of the Moreton Bay Region.

Over the past 15 years, the region has undergone accelerated change.

Almost half a million people now call this place home, with the population continually increasing. This region abounds with spaces that evidence growth, transformation, evolution and obsolescence.

In 2025 artists have been asked to unpack the meaning of change and how they witness it in the landscape, the community and within themselves.

Rachel Bywaters, Zartisha Davis, Amanda Ivy Gardner and Emily McGuire will present new bodies of work that reflect their relationship to this changing landscape.

Fresh Eyes will continue to explore what draws artists to depict certain landscapes or histories of this place and the connection they hold to them.

Exhibition developed by City of Moreton Bay.

When: Saturday, 22 November 2025 - Saturday, 07 March 2026

Location: Redcliffe Art Gallery, 1 Irene Street, Redcliffe 4020

Redcliffe Art Gallery is open from Tuesday to Saturday, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

<https://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Galleries-Museums/Events/RAG/Fresh-Eyes-2025>

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Artisan invitation

Queensland Contemporary Craft and Design *Unwrapped*

Creative Samford members have been invited to celebrate 2025's extraordinary achievements for Queensland's craft and design sector.

They will launch the *MADE by hand*—a new publication celebrating our 55 years—and preview our bold 2026 creative program.

Event Details

Our Guest Speaker is the Hon. John Paul Langbroek MP, Minister for Education and The Arts

Date: Wednesday, 17 December 2025

Time: 11.00am arrival | 11.15am formalities | 1.00pm conclusion

Location: Artisan, 45 King Street, Bowen Hills QLD 4006

Important dates:

Date	Location
Saturday, 22 November 2025 - Saturday, 07 March 2026	<i>Fresh Eyes</i> exhibition
Saturday 6 December	2025 Samford Christmas in the Village
Saturday 13 December	Creative Samford End of Year Christmas Celebration
Wednesday 17 December	Queensland Contemporary Craft and Design Unwrapped
Thursday 15 January and Wednesday 18 February	Creative Workshop with The Culture Crusader and artist Bruce Ellem
Wednesday 21 January	Kids Workshop: Bring your bestie! with The Culture Crusader

Do you have some good news or events coming up that you would like to promote through the Creative Samford e-newsletter? Please submit it to admin@creativesamford.com for consideration.

Stay connected with Creative Samford Social Media

Also, don't forget to join our [Facebook page](#), [Facebook Community Group](#) and [Instagram](#).

To increase reach and potentially grow our membership, please consider tagging Creative Samford Inc. on your social media posts. First, like and follow those pages (links above), then just put @creativesamford in your post - easy!