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# Flight Recorder

## 2014 Journal Entries

A selection of journal articles from Flying Arts Alliance artists, facilitators and organisers working in the front line of artist creative development and arts management in regional and remote areas in 2014.

## INDOOROPILLY

7 & 14 February 2014

Carolyn McKenzie-Craig – Flying Arts Artist

### *Journaling and Concept Development Workshop*

I have taught a lot of workshops and I love the challenge and excitement that each one brings, but the two days I recently spent at Brigidine College brought me back to the innate reasons I practice art – ideas.

The Brigidine College booked me to teach two separate one-day workshops on idea development, visual diaries and the female perspective to their year 12 students.

I grasped this opportunity to develop a lecture outline that could encompass ideas examining how female and gendered identity informs making visual art. I then asked the students to dissect how gender may inform their own behaviours and broader cultural practices that shape their everyday lives. The response was quite inspirational. The students filled a white board with a group creative mind map. I even found myself jotting down some of their ideas, which related ideas of visual art and culture back to actions in their lives. They themselves then branched out the discussion to consider how technology was pervasively impacting on their ability to define their own identities.

We then moved on to how this rich intellectual analysis could be converted to visual outcomes. To do this we went backwards. We looked at contemporary artists and attempted to surmise their starting points, their mid points and their possible processes in the studio. Again I was impressed with the rich intelligence of these students who effectively grasped complex works by contemporary artists and were able to isolate a number of studio methodologies that might take idea to outcome.

Best workshop ever.



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**CALOUNDRA: Caloundra Regional Art Gallery**

**18 March 2014**

**Sarah Barron - Flying Arts Facilitator**

***Gallery Volunteer Training and Development Program – Front of House***

Gallery staff, including workshop organiser Julie Hauritz, warmly welcomed me on my arrival at Caloundra Regional Art Gallery. Our group had the whole gallery space to ourselves as the workshop took place on a Monday when the gallery is closed to the public. The workshop space was set up immaculately on my arrival and looked fantastic with the chairs and tables situated between walls lined with artworks. One by one, the gallery volunteers began to arrive and numbers steadily grew from the expected 15 to 27! Each brought a beautiful plate of food to share and a rearrangement of the contents of the fridges happened several times to accommodate this!

The workshop session was highly interactive, with the group sharing examples of their experiences and asking thoughtful questions. We covered best practice for customer service in a gallery context, understanding visual art and talking about art – particularly within the context of a guided tour. Challenging scenarios encountered within this setting were collectively problem solved and solutions shared. The workshop provided a space for the acknowledgement of existing skills and the enhancing of existing skills and knowledge through the content covered as well as the sharing of knowledge between the participants. During the visual analysis activities, the participants demonstrated a deep and meaningful engagement with the artworks discussed and this was a particular highlight of the session. I came away feeling energised and enthused by the participants' pride in their gallery and passion for sharing this with its visitors!



*Image: Sarah Barron, Workshop Facilitator*

**BRISBANE**  
**19 March 2014**  
**Nancy Brown – Flying Arts Artist**

***QATA Meeting – Artist Books***

This Flying Arts workshop was in Brisbane, a one hour demonstration session for art teachers. Planning for this workshop was a challenge because I knew that they would already have a wealth of artistic experiences, so what could I show them that would be quick, interesting and they didn't already know? I decided to share a quick fold out book technique, talk about the properties of paper, and how to fold and tear paper using those properties of paper memory and size release, then cut into the paper and add sections in to develop ideas and narrative. I shared some image transferring techniques that can move sketches onto good quality paper. Then I showed some fabric printing, lino and collagraph techniques that are useful for making covers for books, and talked about the way fabric paints, dyes and crayons work.

What I loved about this workshop was everyone's enthusiasm to try the techniques. The teachers are already highly skilled artists, and the results were sophisticated, thoughtful and unexpected.





## STRATHPINE

29 March 2014

Joachim Froese – Flying Arts Artist

### *Conceptual Photography Workshop*

In conjunction with the opening of my Flying Arts touring exhibition at Pine Rivers Regional Gallery on Friday, 28 March 2014 I ran another workshop on conceptual photography the following day. When I arrived in the morning there were 12 eager photo enthusiasts waiting and we straight away delved into it. To start the day we looked at numerous photographers who all took different conceptual approaches to express their views and thinking on the world. In the process we had some animated discussions about ideas and photography, which clarified what conceptual photography actually is, and how conceptual work methods can be applied to improve everybody's photography. Afterwards it was time for some hands-on work and the participants went out in pairs to take pictures according to some set tasks. With a good lunch in between everybody was out and about taking pictures around Strathpine until we gathered for a final show and tell, presenting and discussing the pictures that were taken. At the end of an intensive day talking photography and working in the field I was very impressed by the works that resulted from the workshop, which ranged from documentary to abstract photography.



## DYSART

29-30 March 2014

Judy Parrott – Flying Arts Artist

### *Developing a Photographic Concept of Place Workshop*

It could almost have been my own private charter to Moranbah with only five of us on the 80-seater plane. We touched down in the small airstrip and I picked up the hire car for the 100km drive on to Dysart. It's a lovely arrival when a large variety box of chocolates welcomes me on my bed at the Country Motor Inn, with a lace decorated gift tag from our workshop organiser, Richelle.

The photography workshop is run from the trade centre at the State school. We get straight into some warm up activities and I can immediately see that we are going to have fun. This group loves to laugh.

I am here to work on the concept of Place through photography in the run up to an exhibition about Dysart; all part of their 40<sup>th</sup> year celebrations. We have lively discussions about what kind of a place Dysart is. Different to a country town and going through some hard times with job losses at the mines, I am told. It's a transient town, they say. In response to this there is a programme to help newcomers settle and meet people. The philosophy behind this programme reflects the warm, friendly feel I get each time I have been here.

After some demonstration and skills development, we head out to practice those skills around the places we have discussed. It is a scorching day and we all melted a little. Despite the heat, the work brought in for show and tell on Sunday is lovely. Some well composed and carefully thought out images are pleasing to see, and some questions are resolved.

For the rest of Sunday, one of the participants has talked with her friend at a nearby rural property, and we pile into the 4WDs for our second shoot. There are camels, stockyards, crops and a beautiful big dam to keep us busy.

"It's been great to let our hair down", says one participant, "and learn while we laugh".





## **NORMANTON**

**29-30 March 2014**

**Mary Elizabeth Barron - Flying Arts Artist**

### ***Button Jewellery Workshop***

I flew from Brisbane to Cairns then from Cairns to Normanton on a little thirty-two passenger plane. I flew up on Friday, ran the workshops on Saturday and Sunday, then flew back on Monday. The workshops were arranged by the local branch of the Queensland Country Women's Association and the ladies are certainly a versatile and talented lot. They were an enthusiastic group and were all very pleased with what they produced. On the first day we started with a single thread necklace then made several styles of earrings and everyone made a bracelet and /or a second necklace. On arrival on the second day several participants proudly told of the complements they received about their jewellery when they wore it about town. On the second day we progressed to two thread necklaces and matching earrings. They found this technique challenging but everyone persevered and managed to master it to produce beautiful pieces. They are keen to continue making button jewellery and to teach others in the community. I greatly enjoyed visiting this remote part of Queensland. Irene Fitzsimmons, the local organiser, was wonderful showing me around the town & surrounding area. I was thrilled to be taken out to dinner at Karumba Point where I ate barramundi on the edge of the beach at the Gulf of Carpentaria and watched the sunset over the ocean.



## ROMA

2 April 2014

Jacqui Burns - Flying Arts Organiser

### *Consultation on Cultural Policy*

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014, Stephen Clark from Flying Arts conducted a workshop with Councillors and the CEO to assist in the development of the Maranoa Regional Council's Arts and Culture Policy. The workshop was conducted in Council chambers and provided an open forum to discuss updating the interim policy that had been in place since 2009.

From the workshop, Councillors were able to extract the key goal statements clearly and succinctly under the guidance of Flying Arts CEO – Stephen Clark.

The Maranoa Regional Council is currently reviewing the process of policy development to align with corporate planning process and the Arts and Culture Policy is due to be finalised once policy templates are made available.

Flying Arts provided exceptional service and support during the workshop and followed up to ensure the aims and objectives were achieved.



*Image: Stephen Clark, Workshop Facilitator and CEO of Flying Arts Alliance Inc*



## CHINCHILLA

5-6 April 2014

Sarah Barron - Flying Arts Facilitator

### *Gallery Volunteer Training and Development Program*

After a scenic drive down the Warrego highway, I arrived at the Chinchilla White Gums Art Gallery. Gallery Director Helen Dennis and fellow volunteer Gail gave me a warm welcome and a tour of the gallery. The workshop took place amongst the exhibition of works by local artist Maree Cameron and the 20 participants came from across the region from a number of different events and organisations. Workshop participants were volunteers or staff associated with Chinchilla White Gums Gallery, Art@Kogan in Kogan, Dogwood Crossing at Miles, the brand new gallery in Dalby (they got the keys on the first day of the workshop!), a school in Toowoomba and an organisations in Tara. The group were energetic and enthusiastic for both days of the weekend workshop. I was impressed and amazed at the amount and high standard of exhibitions and events delivered in the region – the majority being run entirely by dedicated volunteers. Over the two days, front and back of house gallery procedures were covered and discussed with participants asking lots of great questions and sharing examples and experiences. Topics addressed included best practice for customer service in a gallery context, understanding visual art and talking about art as well as condition reporting, safe handling of art and art installation procedures. There were many laughs and the 2 days went by quickly. Helen and her team of volunteers did a fantastic job in coordinating the workshop. Facilitating this workshop was a highly enjoyable experience thanks to the participants' enthusiasm and receptiveness.



## MORANBAH

7-8 April 2014

Simone Eisler – Flying Arts Artist

The workshops took place at Moranbah Youth Centre, a facility for community workshops/events. The youth centre was equipped with tables and chairs and toilets, however there were no clean up facilities other than a tap outside, and bags were used for rubbish to be disposed of elsewhere. There were no items/materials on site, so all materials were purchased in Brisbane and brought with me in two suitcases. I arrived Sunday evening and was picked up from the airport by the organizer and transported to the motor inn accommodation, which was clean and tidy. I spent the evening preparing for the following day and cross-checking materials. We arrived at the venue an hour early to set up each day.

**Wire Sculpture:** *5-11 year olds.* There were more children than allocated 12 per workshop – approx 16 – however there were extra adults to assist and this was fantastic. I was impressed with how the children managed to create such successful pieces, as bending/threading the wire was a challenge for the younger ones. They were so excited they flew/ran around the centre with their creations at the end of the workshop with gusto.

**Mixed Media Collage:** *12-17 year olds.* This group being older and a smaller group led to well considered collage creations and one on one and group discussion. I showed the group a variety of pictures of collage creations around the theme of self-portraits and discussed the materials available/concepts and techniques to explore with them. The large canvas boards worked very well as a substrate and new techniques were learnt.

**Mask Making:** *5-7 year olds.* A wonderful group of younger kids who were super excited about their papier-mâché masks. They were shown a series of animal masks and face-painting ideas; we discussed our favourite animals and why/characteristics to work with/enhance, and the variety of materials on offer. Each child was assisted with techniques and the outcome was a range of unique and wonderful creations that they preceded to wear and parade amongst each other and their parents.

**Mould Making:** *8-11 year olds.* This group was very excited about working with plaster and getting hands on with the materials. I took them through the process of mould making from start to finish. We began with pre-fabricated plastic moulds to create a cast; then we made a mould of that cast in alginate; and then we made a cast from those moulds. The children were able to take home a selection of moulds and casts. Time ran short to paint the creations; however the children were excited about taking them home to add final touches. Left over plaster was given to those children who took home moulds so that they could create more casts.

After a big clean up, the left over materials were collated for distribution to the local kindergarten and I was driven to the airport by the organizer. This was a fantastic first time regional trip for Flying Arts that was very enjoyable for me.



## INDOOROPILLY

2 May 2014

Lily Karmatz - Flying Arts Artist

### *IKEBANA Inspired Art*

The morning started with rain, which was not part of my plan. I loaded the car with lots of fresh and dried plant materials, such as long strelitzia stems, palm fronds, twigs, vines, fresh flowers, leaves and other construction materials. These were the palettes for the workshop theme 'Nature is Your Paint Brush'.

I was welcomed by the teacher and students to help unload the car. The art studio was located by the foyer where there was a beautiful water and rock feature on the floor. I was impressed with the beautiful space.

The workshop started with a nice cup of coffee brought by the teacher. I gave a 30 minutes power point presentation on 'Arts & Nature', a collection of selected art and Ikebana installations and sculptures. Straight after, the students were inspired and enthusiastically selected materials to construct forms and shapes to create 3D sculptures for wall hanging and installation. It seemed using glue guns and wire ties were natural techniques applied by the students.

After the constructions, it was an exciting moment for the students to select a space to install their ephemeral works for photographs. There were many interesting creations for hanging and some for floating on water. Their teacher was very pleased. The workshop finished with a presentation and a gift for me from the class. I was very impressed.





## COOMBABAH

12 May 2014

Ann Russell - Flying Arts Artist

### *Layers of Thought - Mixed Media*

The workshop was scheduled for the whole school day (9.00am – 3.00pm) which meant that I needed to leave from Ferny Grove at around 7.00am to allow for travelling time. The trip was uneventful and the school was easy to find; being in a road that runs off the Old Gold Coast Highway. Communication with the school organiser had been limited, so there were no specific instructions in terms of car-parking or positioning of the admin or other buildings, but both were fairly easy to find. The school staff was generally welcoming and hospitable. Being a mixed media workshop there was a variety of materials needed, which had been specifically listed some weeks prior to the event. Perhaps the variety was the reason that few of the required materials had been readied placed in the workshop room. Most of the materials were there, but having to ask for them meant that it did impact on the efficiency of the first session.

The workshop catered for two groups of students – one which consisted primarily of year 11 students (15 - 16 year olds) and the second which was primarily year 10s. The students were polite and well-behaved and receptive to the content. I began by showing them numerous examples of work which signified the variety of applications possible in mixed media. I then briefly discussed with them what they were currently studying and what particular components they might be interested in. I tried to adapt the workshop to those needs and interests, and from that point on the workshop was primarily hands-on for the students. They produced two mixed media samples which incorporated a variety of techniques.



**TOOWOOMBA**

**12 May 2014**

**Tess McNab - Flying Arts Client**

***The Glennie – Low Toxic Printmaking***

On Monday, the Year 10 Visual Art class participated in a full day etching workshop at school. Carolyn Mckenzie-Craig, a Brisbane based artist and educator from the Flying Arts Alliance program ran the workshop taking the girls through each step of the creative etching process. During the day, the girls learnt how to etch their own designs into aluminium plates with copper sulphate using a low toxic solution, and how to print using an etching press and a variety of inks.

The workshop aimed at giving the girls an experimental introduction to printmaking focusing on mark making, tone and inter-media approaches to their designs. At the end of the day, all girls had printed a number of etching editions that will become part of a series of works they are working on in class for their upcoming printmaking assessment.



## MIDDLEMOUNT

16-18 May 2014

Mark Paddick - Flying Arts Artist

### *Skate Park Mural*

For almost 20 years as a regional artist in Gladstone I watched the endless carriages of coal shunt through the town on their way to the port. This weekend I finally discovered where that journey began. Arriving at Moranbah Airport on Friday afternoon I was greeted by the vastness of its rural landscape but it was not until I was on the road, driving besides the monstrous trucks that I realised the scale of these operations.

Middlemount was to be my first skate park mural and the two hour journey to the small mining town was filled with planning and designing. We wanted the mural to not only reflect the creativity of the kids but also reference the environment in which they lived. As the landscape flew past my windows and while I dodged the massive road trains, a few distinctive images became apparent and these would form the start of our mural.

Wild grasses stretched for as far as I could see with the black skeletons of burnt trees dotted across the landscape. Ant hills rose out of the rich soil and crows taunted me from the roadside. Combined with the bold yellows of the machinery and mountains of coal the ideas started to form.

There is nothing like a community fete to draw a town together, and this one had them out in their numbers. A perfect way to meet the community and the people whose park we were about to transform. Sitting beside the sweet smell of fairy floss and with the sounds of the local band, the atmosphere was perfect for creating. Students came and went over the course of the night each vowing a return to paint the following morning. With a few dedicated young artists, who resisted the temptation of a carnival ride, we mapped out a plan for the park.

Hoping for a half dozen kids Saturday morning, we were thrilled when 18 young faces geared up with goggles and masks waiting in anticipation to squeeze their first paint nozzle.

Two days later the dirty concrete and tagged walls of the skate park had transformed into a sea of colour. Locals loved the new look, the kids excited to skate on something that they had created and the councils thrilled to have a design that meant something to the region.

As I headed for the airport Sunday afternoon, the satisfied faces of the town's youth were excited for a return visit to complete the park. For now, a reminder, that even small mining towns have creativity at their heart. Thanks to the kids of Middlemount for a great weekend.





**WINDSOR**

**18 May 2014**

**Ann Russell - Flying Arts Artist**

***Early Childhood Forum - Clay Creatures***

As one of six workstations, the purpose of the workshop was to engage participants in visual art activities that they could adapt to their own context in early childhood education. My workshop was making clay creatures, using Paper Magiclay by Zart, non-toxic air-drying clay. This clay is excellent for such a purpose because as well as being safe, it is not messy and requires very few extra materials. Participants universally agreed that the clay would be very useful for their purposes.

I approached the workshop by explaining the various contexts the activity could be used in, with an emphasis on learning through play and inquiry learning. On this basis it is important that creativity rather than accurate representation was the major goal of the activity. After a brief demonstration of how the clay could be used, what its basic properties were, and how to add other items to it, the participants were free to make a 'creature' of their choice. As they were making, there were further discussions about the nature of the clay, its possible uses and ways the activity could be adapted and extended. Having School Art Supplies at the same workshop made it easy in terms of making the product available to them. The workshop seemed to meet its objectives, with a number of people who couldn't attend my workshop stopping by the table to obtain information they had missed.



**WINDSOR**

**18 May 2014**

**Sue Loveday - Flying Arts Artist**

***Early Childhood Forum – Wire Mobiles***

Recently I took a workshop in making a collaborative wire mobile at the early childhood and the visual arts gathering at the Brisbane Institute of Art. My workshop showed off a lovely, brightly coloured craft wire that is soft enough for little fingers to bend. Participants were taken through a series of drawing exercises to demonstrate how children can design their own three dimensional sculptures by drawing something first. It was a great to see the individual styles of the participants around the table and a lot of fun was had creating together and sharing ideas on how the medium could be used. I found the presentations about how adults interact with a child's creative process quite thought provoking. It was great to be part of such a stimulating seminar.



## **BLACKALL RESIDENCY**

**21 May - 4 June 2014**

**Cathy Booth – Flying Arts Artist**

For the second year in a row Flying Arts in conjunction with Blackall Cultural Association has provided the co-funded opportunity for a Queensland based Artist to take part in a two-week residency. This opportunity allows the selected Artist to develop and contribute to their arts practice through the experience, and as professional development opportunity, as well as provide a community engagement experience through workshops and studio visits.

Flying Arts facilitates the expression of interest process and Blackall Cultural Association chooses the successful applicant.

The residency comprised of Cathy judging the Blackall Art Show, community workshops in Horror Make Up and Mould Making, and participating in the market day face painting and balloon modelling. Cathy also used this experience to be inspired by the outback; take photos and explore the land and work on her Children's book ideas and sketches. As well she assisted with painting the mural at the Living Arts Centre (approximately 9 metres x 1 metre plus a .5 m area above the windows) which took approximately 3 days.

Thank you to Blackall Cultural Association again for co-funding this experience and providing an Artist a professional development opportunity.

To view Cathy Booth's work visit: [www.facebook.com/paintbubble](http://www.facebook.com/paintbubble).



*Image: Mural painted by Sally Campbell, Cathy Booth and the Blackall community*



## ST LAWRENCE

30-31 May 2014

Casselle Mountford - Flying Arts Artist

### *St Lawrence Wetlands Festival: Environmental Sculpture*

It was a great privilege to be asked back to run workshops at the St Lawrence wetlands festival for the third time. St Lawrence is a sleepy little town south of Mackay with an amazing Wetlands sanctuary with an abundance of wildlife. For this workshop I was asked to create a large Turtle Sculpture that all the community could contribute to during the workshops on Saturday.

On the Friday I stayed at our Dongas and built the framework of the large Turtle Sculpture, so it would be ready for the Saturday wetlands festival. It was a beautiful sunny day on the Saturday and I got help to move the turtle in the back of a Ute to the festival site.

I began the day working with local and visiting children from as far away as Airlie Beach and Rockhampton. They wove small netted circles to add to the shell of the Turtle Sculpture using cane and coloured wool and leaves. My next workshop was with adults and they created Bird sculptures out of cane and wire and then decorated the birds with colourful wool netting and woven crepe paper.

Throughout the day I kept adding materials to the Turtle Sculpture with the help of locals and visitors to the festival. It was created from a variety of natural materials including woven cane, Raffia, Bamboo leaves, paper bark, Poinciana pods, Banksia and grass tree seeds. At the end of the day the Turtle was displayed for all to see and received many compliments from the festival participants. A great success for all involved.



## KENMORE

May 2014

Pamela Denise - Flying Arts Artist

### *Kenmore SCIP Community Public Art Project: Concept Design & Consultation*

#### *Part I - 3 May 2014*

This was the first workshop in a short series to be run in the Kenmore suburban centre over the next couple of months. The aim of the workshops is to generate ideas to inform the design concept for the community public art installation in the Kenmore SCIP. Nine people attended a robust afternoon of discussion and creative activity. Consensus was reached on a preferred option and we defined a conceptual framework. This will be further developed at the next round of workshops with students at Kenmore State School. I grew up in Kenmore in the 70's and look forward to putting in some legwork re-discovering some old haunts, following up some historical references and leads, as well as looking for iconic eucalypts. It was a terrific workshop and strong start to this component of the Kenmore SCIP.

#### *Part II – 22 & 23 May 2014*

Six short workshops of 90 minute duration were delivered to the 6 senior class groups at Kenmore State School. The aim was to seek ideas and information from the students to be incorporated into the Kenmore Balustrade. This will be installed as part of the Brisbane City Council Kenmore SCIP at the pedestrian crossing link between the shops and the school on Moggill Road.

We started with a slideshow demonstrating what a balustrade was, how diverse they can be and the type we are looking to do. Then we leapt straight into the practical; drawing and cartooning at first, then onto a transfer of ideas and patterns by embossing metal sheets and finally manipulating copper wire with pliers to make a collaborative class Marquette. Each class worked their picket style balustrade to a different theme or concept. The creative output from the students was tremendous. The recommendations regarding the signatures trees of Kenmore were most helpful as well as the response to the comparison challenge of Kenmore past and present. There were also some revealing insights as to the perceived experience of a small dog in this busy thoroughfare. The material and discussions from these workshops is now conglomerating in a vision that I hope to translate onto a balustrade that locals can interpret easily, relate to and feel that it reflects the quality of living in Kenmore.

There is one more day of workshops to do with the junior students where we will be exploring the potential of detail in botanical study for a major Work on metal.



**WINDSOR**

**1 June 2014**

**Simone Eisler - Flying Arts Artist**

***PD4Art Educators: Mixed Media Assemblage***

As I prepared towards this workshop, I realized that there are so many wonderful techniques courtesy of the Surrealist and Dada movements that are remarkably simple yet effective for creating interesting artwork. The crossovers with my own art practice made it a pleasure to research and streamline a set of exercises that would be of benefit to art educators and other practitioners.

I arrived at the Brisbane Institute of Art and was greeted by a fantastic workspace and an enthusiastic team of participants. As the group was small we were able to huddle around my laptop as I showed a power-point presentation of the multitude of techniques and forms my work utilizes, with a focus on hybridity and transformation. I'd also prepared an overview of each of the techniques we were going to explore with mixed media, towards a final work (s) at the end of the workshop that utilized some of these techniques. Aside from the materials purchased from School Art Supplies and Reverse Garbage, we had loads of magazines courtesy of Chrissy from Flying Arts as well as unusual materials I brought along including fish scales, shells and patterns.

We began with Cubomania, gridding and cutting up images. These produced some great results with some participants taking the technique further by layering with other cut imagery. Then we moved on to Cut-Up technique with text. Followed by some experiments with Frottage/Rubbings, Outagrophy (cutting out of an image) as well as the game Exquisite Corpse, which produced some interesting hybrid imagery combinations.

The day went so quickly and there was so much time that could be spent on each exercise. Participants then moved on to their final mixed media collage works; some choosing to combine a myriad of the techniques they had learnt; some choosing to focus more on one technique with some more experimentation thrown in. It was fun and inspirational day for all, including myself. The techniques and the resource notes provided should provide endless themes and possibilities to explore and adapt. These can be utilised by not only artists, but also teachers in the class-room.





## **NORMANTON**

**5-8 June 2014**

**Joachim Froese - Flying Arts Artist**

### ***PHOTOGRAPHING THE RODEO***

Every year in June Normanton in Far North Queensland stages one of the last real bush rodeos, which has competitors arriving from all over Australia to take part in the event. As it happens the town also has a vibrant community of dedicated photographers and one of the highlights for which they come together is the Normanton rodeo. Once again they invited me to fly up from Brisbane to be the 'roaming tutor' during the event.

Although the rodeo offers countless photo opportunities most of our photography concentrated on the events inside the arena, in particular the bull rides and the bucking broncos. These events are not easy to capture, everything happens fast and the light is far from ideal. On top of that, it needs special skills and a calm hand using a long telephoto lens when the adrenaline is pumping as the cowboys mount their wild bucking beasts. But we worked hard to fine tune our skills at the end of an exciting weekend everybody ended up with excellent shots.

However, for the serious photographer the work doesn't end with the camera work, more needs to be done on the computer to enhance and refine the pictures, which come out of the camera. For this reason we managed to squeeze in an introduction to image manipulation using dedicated programs such as Photoshop and Lightroom. As always the last night after the rodeo was spent sitting around the campfire and barbecue under the most amazing starlit sky. The next day when I had to catch the long flight back to Brisbane I looked back on another amazing Flying Arts experience!



## CLAYFIELD

17 June 2014

Simone Eisler - Flying Arts Artist

### *Public Art / Recycled Sculpture Maquettes*

These workshops were a marvellous opportunity to introduce students to the remarkable possibilities for balsa wood. Balsa wood is easy to cut with Stanley knives, scissors and hack -saws and easy to assemble. Students learnt how to use a jigsaw as well as other techniques for construction including using a staple gun, creating slots to join pieces and gluing with hot glue.

I began the workshop by presenting a power point of my sculptural practice to two groups of Year 10 Students. I discussed the different techniques and concepts of my work, which spans installation, sculpture and public art. The second part of my presentation was focused on the 'nuts and bolts' of public art or art for the public realm – both temporary works and permanent works with a minimum life span of 15 years. I also talked about the several 'hats' I wear as a practitioner and small business owner which include taxation, budgeting, public liability insurances and project management. As well as working with design professionals including engineers, architects, fabricators, designers and other artists to realize and install public art work.

We then broke into two groups, with a teacher in charge of one group and me in charge of the other. The teacher worked on cane sculptures with tissue paper to create sculptures focusing on 'elements' and 'form'. My group brainstormed ideas for sculpture that may be translated to larger public sculpture as an entry statement or feature for the school grounds. Students were encouraged to discuss their ideas and draw in their sketchbooks and worked in groups of 4 and 5 to develop and build their creations.

In the afternoon the teacher and I swapped groups and went through the same processes with the new group.

At the end of the day there was an interesting array of balsa wood sculptures which were decorative, unique and a combination of free standing/mobile constructions. We re-grouped to discuss the possibilities of these works on a larger scale and explored how the balsa wood 'models' would be useful to convey ideas to a panel or group commissioning a public sculpture.

It was a very successful and fun day with all students learning new skills about construction and developing ideas from concept through to fabrication – towards larger sculptures for the public realm.



**IPSWICH: St Mary's College**  
**25-26 June 2014**  
**Mark Paddick - Flying Arts Artist**

### ***Aerosol Workshop***

Wednesday morning I walked into a classroom of eager students excited for a day of art making. It was this moment it all came flooding back. Like riding a bike, standing in an Art room was second nature and I was looking forward to the old times. And like I had for all those years, I was straight into it, talking the talk and interacting with young creative minds. I had actually missed this part of teaching.

The students were great; in fact it felt like a class I had been teaching for a while, listening, interacting and answering questions.

With the safety stuff out of the way it was time to kick their imaginations into gear. The initial fear of not being artistic at all dissolved with some one-on-one guidance. Some stayed safe and followed the simple process but many were ready to push their designs into more complex directions. The morning was spent creating their first piece. The Perspex is a forgiving process that allowed for the mistakes of a beginner but they all understood the technique quickly.

The exciting part of this technique is the reveal. As we work in reverse the actual finished work is not seen until completed and the protective paper is peeled back from the front of the Perspex. After the first student peeled back the design, the class would gather around for each consecutive reveal. The "wow" moment became a big part of the day.

With the afternoon session they returned with bigger and bolder ideas. Colours escalated with some venturing into 12+ layers for their stencils. In fact it was only time that restricted their ideas. Many worked through their lunch and were pushing the last few minutes before the 3 pm bell rang.

Overall the two days were a pleasant experience. It was the best parts of teaching, the interaction with young minds, the creating and the excitement of learning. Thanks to the students of St Marys for a great day of art making.





## TOOWONG

10 July 2014

Joachim Froese - Flying Arts Artist

### *Through the Lens*

As every year during the winter school holidays the Queensland Association for Gifted & Talented Children (QAGTC) organized a wide range of workshops for gifted kids: Challenge 2014. Being an 'old hand' – I already had run a workshop the previous year – I knew that a group of enthusiastic budding photographers would wait for me, ready to explore the world through the lens.

And so we did. First we looked at objects in a context, which once again saw my large basket of toys come into action. We set up dinosaur fights as well as more peaceful still life's, all presented for and captured through the camera. In the afternoon we learned how to take a good portrait, which will lift the quality of one or two Facebook pages, and finished up looking at structure and geometry around us.

At the end of a day, packed with fun and information I handed the young photographers back to their parents, their cameras loaded with great images.





**TOOWONG**

**10 July 2014**

**Sue Loveday - Flying Arts Artist**

***Stop Motion Animation with Queensland's Gifted & Talented***

It was a thrill to find one of the four boys I was working with for the stop motion animation workshop was the grandson of one of my lecturers at Art College many years ago... definitely an artist in the making. Our small group were all from grades 6 and 7 from schools all over Brisbane, all with an enthusiasm to learn and create. We started off with a game where we discovered each other's knowledge of mythical creatures, and imagined how we would draw these creatures. Then we created stories about what we would do if we ruled the world. With imaginations warmed up the boys split into two groups and we learnt about how to storyboard scripts for their movies. Techniques in brush and ink and watercolour painting were covered and the groups painted the characters that would feature in their movies. Some of these characters then became clay models and backgrounds and props were created. We then worked at the animation stations to shoot the movies, moving the elements a small amount at a time, then downloaded and added sound effects. The resulting movies about stickmen, cats and dragons and crazy animal transformations are a mark of a great day of creating something together.



## **PALMWOODS**

**29-30 July 2014**

**Glenda Hennig – Flying Arts Artist**

### ***Textile Memory***

On a chilly morning in the wonderful workspace of the Palmwoods Art & Craft Association, enthusiastic and adventurous members happily embraced the messiness of a mixed media workshop and produced some great books, all fascinatingly different. Following a discussion about art making, memory and materials, participants embarked on an exploration of various techniques to bind together their examples of textile craft, from indigo dyed cotton to intricate embroidery. These artists could certainly wield a needle, but were also happy to explore glue, paint, markers, encaustic and junk mail texts, with great results. They took away some more ideas to incorporate their very skilful work into meaningful and personal art works.



## GLADSTONE

2-3 August 2014

Clare Poppi - Flying Arts Artist

### *TEXTURED METAL*

On Friday night, after being collected from the airport by Shane Kendrick (President) and delivering my things to the motel, I visited the Gladstone Gem, Rock and Mineral Club and was able to talk to members of the club. I had the opportunity to look over the equipment available and get prepared for the workshop the next day.

On Saturday I was taken back to the club and we began the class. We started by cutting up sheets of metal for samples. We began with reticulation and granulation and then prepared our metal for acid etching. Unfortunately, the acid needed for this technique had not arrived with the club, so we went as far as we could and the group agreed to meet in a few weeks time to complete the acid etching. Full instructions for the final stage of this process were left with the club. After lunch we covered hammer texturing, and how to make your own hammer with a textured surface. We also prepared our metal for the second day of the workshop. After the workshop finished, one of the participants invited me to her farm, about 45 mins from Gladstone, for dinner which was very generous.

On Sunday we learnt some basic chasing and repousse techniques, chemical & heat patination in addition to finishing techniques. There was time in the afternoon for participants to experiment with the learnt techniques and also to make some of their own jewellery if they chose to. We had a show and tell in the afternoon, and displayed all the samples, experiments and finished pieces. Many participants incorporated their prior stone setting knowledge into their final pieces. After the workshop, I was kindly taken straight to the airport for my flight home, by Shane once more. Overall it was a very enjoyable trip and I hope the participants found it beneficial.



**MT GRAVATT**

**9 August 2014**

**Julie Maddocks – Flying Arts Artist**

### ***Slip Casting and Moulds Workshop***

This was my first workshop for Flying Arts and was very impressed with the organization. School Art Supplies (Art Shed) were very organized and very helpful and the inaugural event seemed to go without a hitch.

My Slip Casting Porcelain Clay Workshop started with my first 12 students (high school teachers) in the morning after coffee and a look around the supplier's tables.

Despite the students apprehension about slip casting and porcelain clay they took to the process and didn't want to stop. There is something to be said about someone else saying it is ok to play. The students quickly forgot about how difficult they thought porcelain clay was to work with and got carried away with the process. They were then put to work cleaning wet pieces that I had poured the previous day. I mentioned that they could cut, mark and put holes into the piece so they could get a feel for what the clay is like. There were some interesting creations produced and I had to interrupt the fun to give them another piece that had dried so they could do the same thing in a dried state. This showed them the difference between the two ways of cleaning porcelain.

Lunch was an extravagant affair and then came the second workshop and again the students were enthusiastic and created some great pieces.

We packed up and everyone went home bursting with enthusiasm. School Art Supplies has a video of the day that can be viewed at:

[http://schoolartsupplies.com.au/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=47&Itemid=10042](http://schoolartsupplies.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47&Itemid=10042)



PD EVENT 2014



PD EVENT 2014



**MT GRAVATT**

**9 August 2014**

**Nancy Brown - Flying Arts Artist**

***Artist's Books and Journals***

Art teachers in schools do an amazing job that goes well beyond the paid hours, infusing schools with lateral thinking, enthusiasm and creativity. This Saturday was an opportunity to give something back to them. School Art Supplies <https://www.schoolartsupplies.com.au/> organised a professional development day with sensational demonstrations of what is new and old in techniques and materials, a delicious lunch, and some workshops where creative processes were explored. I facilitated the Artist Books workshop through Flying Arts <http://www.flyingarts.org.au/> and the results were pretty magic. Some photos from the day...



## JULIA CREEK

16-17 August 2014

Nancy Brown - Flying Arts Artist

### *Recycle to Reinvent Workshop*

As a child I listened to Dad's tales of cattle trucks, dust, and the mines at Mt Isa. He flew there with my sister once and then they both talked about this marvellous place in outback Queensland. Well my turn to visit arrived this weekend! Flying Arts and the Julia Creek Cultural Association invited me to run a workshop in Julia Creek. I flew into Isa and drove the 250k through Cloncurry to Julia Creek with my bundled up ingredients for art making in two bags. Three generations of families came along. New friends were made, and some creative talents uncovered in the prints that we made on cloth and clothing.



## ROMA

23-24 August 2014

Clare Poppi – Flying Arts Artist

### *Sustainable Jewellery Making*

I was collected from the airport on Friday evening by Natalie, the Club's secretary and taken to the workshop venue to familiarise myself. On Saturday morning I arrived at 8:15am to get set up and we began at 9am. Once the students were comfortable and had set up their areas, we began by discussing how to sort metal for recycling and talked about the processes involved. We also discussed alternatives to the typical chemicals used in the process. Students spent the day sorting their scrap metal and preparing it, then began pouring ingots one by one, under immediate supervision. The students were then shown how to roll out their ingots into wire and sheet and spent most of the rest of the afternoon completing this task, as working on designs for jewellery to be made the next day. We finished at 5pm, and I was taken to dinner with the Club's treasurer and workshop organiser, Heather, and participant Mari.

On Sunday we began at 9am again and finished the rolling of sheet and wire. Students were shown a variety of techniques, depending on their projects, which included bezels, claws, rivets and other metal smithing techniques. Many students completed jewellery pieces and some intended to finish the last few components at later meetings. We finished at 4:30pm and I was taken straight to the airport by one of the participants, Julie. It was a lovely group, within a vibrant & creative local community.





**COLLINSVILLE: Collinsville State School Workshop**  
**3 September 2014**  
**Pam Finlay - Flying Arts Artist**

***Painting Abstracts from Nature***

It was an honour to be given the opportunity to work at Collinsville State School on Wednesday 3 September, 2014. Upon arrival the children eagerly helped me carry the art supplies to their art room in preparation for the day ahead. They were excited at having the chance to spend the morning immersed in creativity. The Year 4-7 students came along for the first 2 hour session. As the theme was focused on "nature" the students walked around the school to gather leaves and interesting textures that could be incorporated into their artwork. When we came back to the art room I discussed and demonstrated the possibilities of what could be created on their canvases. The School's new supply of very vibrant paints aroused enthusiasm in the students. We decided upon a rainbow colour scheme for all 3 canvases. The students set to work on painting a section of the canvas in their chosen colour. I then demonstrated a simple monotype technique and they set about creating a special collage paper which was later torn and glued onto the canvas. When their painted section was dry textural elements were applied which included leaf pressings, crayon drawing resist, bubble wrap etc. This produced a layered quality. Students also commenced these above techniques on their own mini sample artwork to take home. Session 2 with P-3 followed a similar pattern to the first session. In this session students took delight in finding creatures from nature in their monoprints and outlined them.

A theme for each canvas was decided upon and I outlined the chosen theme on their mixed media background working around their designs. This workshop truly unleashed the student's creativity and I was totally inspired by the children's comments, enjoyment and outcomes. Thank you Collinsville State School.





## NINGI

4 September & 16 October 2014

Mary Elizabeth Barron - Flying Arts Artist

### *Twinned Bread Bag iPad Bag*

#### *Part I – 4 September 2014*

I ran the first of three evening workshops with The Roar Initiative Inc. on the north side of Brisbane on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September. We started making iPad bags, weaving strips of bread bags over the handle then commenced twining, also with strips of bread bags, over the fabric lining of the bag. They were an enthusiastic and capable group of teenagers and youth workers, a delight to work with. Once the technique had been mastered we had interesting and lively discussions while they worked.



#### *Part II – 16 October 2014*

A couple of people who attended the first workshop were unable to make it to this one but those that did come progressed well with their twinned bread bag iPad Bags. One girl powered on very well and completed her bag and it looks great! Using some electrical wire scapes & strips of plastic I started a small twined basket to demonstrate the use of the twining technique in a slightly different way so they could see how they could further use the technique on other projects.



## NORMANTON

13-14 September 2014

Mary Elizabeth Barron - Flying Arts Artist

### *Button Jewellery*

I started my trip leaving home, Ormeau, at 5am Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September. My husband drove me to Brisbane airport where I caught a QANTAS flight to Cairns then Skytrans (a small 32 seat aeroplane) to Normanton. The scenery from Cairns to Normanton is fascinating with many winding dry creek beds, the colours and patterns of the earth and salt pan areas. Normanton is a small community with a population of just over 1000. The CWAQ (Country Women's Association of Queensland) organised my trip and the ladies of Normanton are a very creative and prolific lot. They have an art/craft shed at the showgrounds and are well set up to do glasswork, mosaics, polymer clay and a pottery kiln had just arrived a few days before my visit. A recently completed large mosaic of a jackaroo on a bucking horse at the rodeo was on the road leading to the show grounds. They were telling me about their plans for three more to line the showground entrance.

I ran a two day button jewellery workshop, my second with them. There were some new participants so they learnt some of the simpler techniques while those who had attended the previous workshop moved on to learn new techniques that built on the skills learnt last time. Although it was only a small group with seven people participating over the two days, they were very prolific in their output and produced work of a high standard showing a good grasp of the techniques combined with good use of colour and design concepts.



## MORANBAH

3-4 October 2014

Casselle Mountford - Flying Arts Artist

### *Lantern Making/ Environment Sculpture*

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> of October, Moranbah Arts organized the Arts in the Park event to celebrate their 40th Anniversary. I was asked to facilitate Lantern making workshops on the Friday with an enthusiastic group of children and their parents. We created 30 pyramid lanterns decorated with brightly coloured tissue paper designs. These lanterns were hung near the community stage in the park, to be lit up at night during the bush dance. I went along and joined in the festivities and had a lovely evening.

The Saturday was market day and I facilitated a sculpture and dream catcher workshop for young children. It was a lovely sunny day and the Moranbah community came and participated in all the different activities. Moranbah Arts are to be congratulated on a fantastic 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary organized by a wonderful group of volunteers who keep the arts alive in their regional area.



*Image: Casselle Mountford, Flying Arts Artist*



**WOODEND: St Edmunds College**  
**15 October 2014**  
**Duke Albada - Flying Arts Artist**

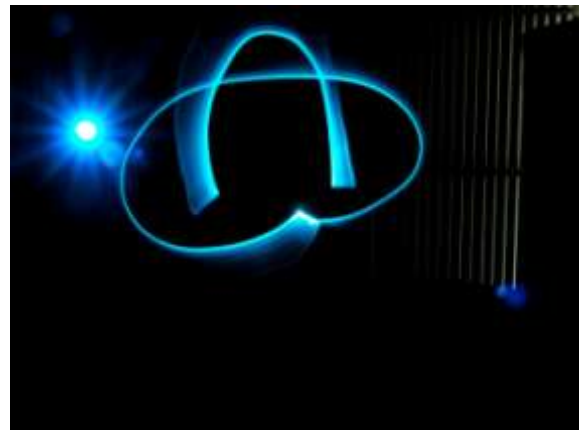
### ***Light Graffiti***

Teaching 15 teenage boys in a darkened room is a challenge, to say the least. Luckily they quickly engaged with the workshop activities and were soon planning their next moves whilst eagerly awaiting their turn. Painting with light, the air their canvas, the camera documenting their actions.

Throughout a series of exercises a steep learning curve was begotten by all, brought about by doing as well as watching their peers use a variety of lights in a myriad of ways. Favourite amongst the lights sources were the light sabres, used in a way Jedi's could only dream off.

All the new skills, knowledge and creative juices fuelled the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the workshop where participants collaborated in creating a short story by means of light graffiti. They had to draw up a plan, including describing the scenes, choice of lights and job division. The overall workshop outcomes were outstanding: in my opinion, the teachers and not in the least that of the proud students.

I love teaching this workshop, it takes me back to when I studied photography many a year ago and once I discovered long exposure I used it for all my assignments in one way or another for almost the entire year. Participants do not have to have any specific artistic skills, or photography knowledge to be able to create spectacular outcomes.





**JINDALEE**

**18 October 2014**

**Glenda Hennig - Flying Arts Artist**

***Block Prints – CGEN***

The group was a talented bunch of Year 12s; my task was to help them produce relief prints based on imaginary creatures. But how to dream up some fabulous creatures and avoid the usual clichés? A great book, *A Dictionary of Fabulous Beasts* (Barber R & Riches A: Boydell Press, NY, 1971) yielded some descriptions of weird critters from history and fiction, our starting point. Students visually brainstormed some ideas and then, working first with polystyrene trays, we translated these designs into line prints, using coloured and black papers, and exploring the idea of the reduction process of overprinting after further work on the blocks. This was a good intro to this sometimes tricky process and we followed up with making lino cuts on floor vinyl off cuts, often more available than traditional lino and easier to work. The prints dried quickly and most did two or three coloured prints. Great fun.



## INDOORROOPIILLY

23 & 30 October 2014

Glenda Hennig - Flying Arts Artist

### *Mini Residency and Workshop*

I'd miscalculated the travel time and sat in traffic gridlock for ages, so I was rather overheated when I arrived at Brigidine College more than a little later than I intended for a comfortable set up. But then... heaven... air-conditioned building, rock pool water feature, student artwork everywhere and peace prevailing. Of course as soon as the bell went there was a noisy tidal wave of students heading for class, but I loved that brief hiatus on a hot Brisbane morning! The art staff was wonderful, giving me a corner of the art room with access to everything, and classes came and went until the first lot of 'my' girls came in for their double period and we worked madly to get a ground created for their mixed media assignment. After lunch there was another group on the same task and we moved even faster, as usual ruled by the bell. The second day was more fun for me, the girls could start developing their own solutions and there were as many different ideas as students. It was gratifying to see some terrific canvases well on the way. I also got to work with Year 12 students, always a pleasure.



**COOROY**

**25 October 2014**

**Cheryl McGannon - Flying Arts Artist**

***Encaustic Hot Wax Painting and Mixed Media Workshop - CGEN***

Creativity and inspiration - new skills learned - experience grown and wisdom stored up. That's how I'm reflecting on this workshop.

Looking back over the day's workshop, I am struck not only by the way these young students embraced new and challenging techniques but also by the way they grappled with their own designs and the sheer diversity of ideas that came out of the workshop.

It is easy sometimes to get caught up in the techniques of creating with encaustic and forget or ignore the basic principles of making art. This didn't happen with these students; they just got right in there and enjoyed the wonderful experience of making art. I found that by working in a group of this size, it was easy to provide individual assistance when required; I found them appreciative of the positive critical analysis of their works and the self-confidence they all displayed.

There are some wonderful inspirational, nurturing art teachers out there and they should all be congratulated on the obviously positive effect they have had on this group of delightful creative students.

We had fun, and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves while learning about how wax and other mixed media can be manipulated on panels.

I would have liked this workshop to be extended to a two day program; this would enable the students to produce a larger more complex image. There is so much more to learn, we only scraped the surface of this seductive art form.

Delivering this workshop has been a pleasure.





## TOWNSVILLE: Pinnacles Gallery / Riverway Arts Centre

25 October, 2014

Simone Eisler - Flying Arts Artist

### *Mixed Media Assemblage - CGEN*

This was a wonderful Flying Arts Tutor experience as it was my first trip to Townsville in a long time and a privilege to work with talented students from regional QLD. Workshop numbers were low, so I was anticipating that the two confirmed students were going to be motivated and genuinely excited to be at the workshop. They were very enthusiastic and a pleasure to work with. I have run this workshop before, and enjoy it because there are so many wonderful techniques courtesy of the Surrealist and Dada movements that are remarkably simple yet effective for creating interesting artwork. There are also many crossovers with my own art practice.

I arrived at the Pinnacles art gallery and unpacked a large suitcase of materials. We had one table but needed more space so another table was arranged as well as power leads for the glue guns. As there was only two students we were able to huddle around my laptop as I showed a power-point presentation of the multitude of techniques and forms my work utilizes, with a focus on hybridity and transformation. The gallery assistant also sat in on the talk. After that I explained the myriad of materials I'd brought with me and discussed what kind of transformative and collage techniques we could do with those. Then I showed a power point overview of each of the techniques we were going to explore with mixed media, towards a final work (s) at the end of the workshop that utilized some of these techniques. Aside from the materials purchased from School Art Supplies and Reverse Garbage, we had loads of magazines courtesy of Cate from Flying Arts as well as unusual materials I brought along including fish scales, shells and different papers.

We began with Cubomania, gridding and cutting up images. These produced some great results with some participants taking the technique further by layering with other cut imagery. Rather than go through each exercise individually, the students were confident to play with the other techniques I had showed them on the power point presentation including the use of Cut-Up technique with text and Outagraphy (cutting out of an image).

The day went so quickly and the students did some great resolved works. One in particular did a lovely series, which utilized scales and feathers in a mask like fashion similar to a series of performative photographs I had showed during my artist talk. We also spoke about their own aspirations and love of art and what they were planning to do post graduation from school. I explained all through the day how I operate as an artist and the broad range of jobs and projects I undertake.





## **BLACKALL**

**8-9 November 2014**

**Gerwyn Davies - Flying Arts Artist**

### ***Digital Media Masterclass***

I hadn't entirely expected the greeting I received at the Blackall airport.

Her name was Ozzie. The local hotel owner came roaring down the highway to the tin shed terminal in her red convertible BMW. Her white hair fluttering in the breeze, sunglasses drawn, "Get in munchkin!"

Before I knew it we were racing away from town at top speed, quick turn, back again, across, over, past the Black Stump, Jackie Howe's grave and to the Wool Scour tour. I was entirely burnt by the time Ozzie finished her roofless and expansive tour of town and took me back to my hotel.

Fortunately I had an entire day to rehydrate, bath in aloe vera and rest for the photography masterclass the following 2 days. A dozen promising and knowledgeable photographers from Blackall, Barcaldine, Longreach and Rockhampton converged to endure two days of intensive camera, lighting and Photoshop jargon. It was a techno assault, a sea of drained white faces overloaded with information in 41C heat. Learning to enhance their already strong photographic work with the 'smoke and mirrors' magic of post-production, participants had a range of different outcomes they sought from the workshops. Patience and practice are never the most uplifting words to throw at a group but everyone walked away with a range of new skills that they can begin to apply to their work. It could have easily been 5 days of content so hats off to the Blackall group for surviving such a merciless onslaught over such a hot weekend.

To the airport please Ozzie.

