

THE FOUNDRY

**ARTS
SPACE**



ECHUCA-MOAMA

ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025



WHO WE ARE

Echuca Moama Arts Initiative Inc. was established in 2011 as a membership based, Not for Profit volunteer organisation, whose purpose was to actively support the arts and artists in the region and to encourage community and visitor interest and engagement.

EMAI was the lead agency for the Arts and Culture section of the Shire of Campaspe 2011 Plan for Echuca Moama. Its purpose was to 'grow the arts in Echuca Moama'.

Initially the Old Customs House building was provided to the group by the Shire of Campaspe where considerable time and effort was donated to set the building up as a gallery presenting regular exhibitions and events.

In 2015, EMAI moved to the old Freemans Foundry building which had been renovated to become The Foundry Arts Space gallery.



Isabelle Kawai Vincent demonstrating at her exhibition 'Girls, Goddesses, Greatness'

Since then The Foundry Arts Space has been managed and run by volunteers delivering regular exhibitions, art classes and workshops throughout the year.

However, over the years the real focus of EMAI had been the operation and utilisation of The Foundry Arts Space. Therefore, it seemed to be time for the name of the organisation to reflect the main activities.

At the 2024 AGM, it was agreed to officially change the name to The Foundry Arts Space Inc.

The Foundry Arts Space will still advocate for art in the region and support other art groups and businesses.

The Foundry Arts Space project for the next 10 years will continue to support and foster the arts and artists in the region through actively participating with all programs and developments, both community and commercial, to ensure that the Echuca Moama Murray River region is recognised as an exciting place for the arts experience.

The Foundry Arts Space acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we are on, the Yorta Yorta Nation.

We pay respects to their Tribal Elders; we celebrate their continuing culture and acknowledge the memory of their ancestors.

OUR OBJECTIVE

The Foundry Arts Space objective is to promote the arts and enable and encourage community and visitor interest and engagement in the arts through all communication channels -



Assist with the production and promotion of the arts in all forms throughout the Echuca Moama region



Promote artistic and cultural endeavours in the region



Foster interaction between various artistic and cultural organisations and individuals and the wider community

THE FOUNDRY ARTS SPACE

The Foundry Arts Space, located in the Old Freemans Foundry building in the Echuca Port area, supports artists and fosters the arts in the community and cultural organisations through exhibitions, events, workshops and classes throughout the year.

The Foundry Arts Space is recognised for presenting regular 2D, 3D and audio/visual art exhibitions and arts events by local and emerging artists and community organisations, as well as providing the opportunity to experience work by nationally recognised artists.

Left to right - 'Osmosis' exhibition 31st January - 23rd February, 2025. Sculptures by Jess Szigethy

Lu Bennett hosting an artists talk about her exhibition 'Book of Days - 'Time & Figure' 'Unearthed' Ripple Fest Youth exhibition May 2 - 25, 2025

COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Chairperson	Judi Lawler
Deputy Chairperson	Chris Stephens
Secretary	Kristen Dyer
Treasurer	Peter Caton
Assistant Treasurer	Leanne Cuffe
Exhibitions & Grants	Jenny Turner
Newsletters & Social Media	Liz Dellar
Catering	Julie Spiers
Marketing	Emma Bradbury
Member	Maggie Ellis
Administration	Andrea Velt

SUB COMMITTEES

Exhibition

Kerry Williams	Penny Silver	Sue Harrison	Jill Kenley
Jenny Turner	Judi Lawler	Carolyn Rolls	Kerry Williams
Gavin North		Ava Ward	Sue Badham

Art Prize



*Committee of Management
Chairperson - Judi Lawler*



*Committee of Management
Catering - Julie Spiers*



*Exhibition Committee
Member - Gavin North*

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

This year has been a year of changes with some exciting developments for the Foundry. Our new name is now entrenched in all our social and printed media, website and all governance matters. The final step will be the exterior signage, planned this year.

Discussions continue with Campaspe Shire regarding the development of the "workshop" building behind the Foundry. Draft plans are currently being reviewed by the committee. Once finalised the shire will seek funding.

Our volunteers have been wonderful supporters of the Foundry, and I thank them for their dedication and enthusiasm. The new point of sale system and the availability of parking at the Echuca Club have improved their experience.

Our "shop" has been replaced with Pop Up members exhibitions. We believe this gives a better

opportunity for member exposure and sales, whilst complementing the main exhibition.

We were delighted to be part of RippleFest with a Youth exhibition and the Studio Art Trail. Both were very successful events for the local area and us.

In collaboration with the Gargarro Botanical Garden, with funding from Campaspe Shire, we facilitated the selection process for an outdoor sculpture at the gardens. The quality of entries was exceptional, with Julian Smith's winning design to be unveiled late this year.

The exhibition program has again showcased the variety and depth of artistic talent in our area. Congratulations to the exhibition team who manage this program from selection to curation to the opening event.

The Foundry committee has worked hard to promote and enhance the Foundry experience. My personal thanks for their support and enthusiasm. During the year, we welcomed Emma Bradbury to the team and Leanne Cuffe returned to assist our treasurer.

I look forward to this year as we explore further opportunities promote and utilise The Foundry Arts Space.

Judi Lawler
Chairperson
The Foundry Arts Space Inc.



Mr Dimples with his installation at his exhibition 'Domestic Bliss'

TREASURER'S REPORT

Another very busy year in the Foundry Art Space with a full calendar of diverse exhibitions and events. The end of year financial figures again demonstrated a positive result.

Included in the surplus of \$11,363.58 is significant contribution from the bi-annual Arts Prize competition with net contribution of \$4,81.78.

Also in the numbers is a generous sponsorship from Moama Bowling Club and we must thank the MBC for their continued financial support that we directly use to help fund our administration costs.

Our memberships figures for 23/24 includes an amount of \$1,471 prepaid for 24/25.

When this amount is adjusted in both periods Membership figures have remained constant through the two years. 2025 \$3,761 compared to 2024 of \$3,715.

Thanks, is also be given to AnneMaree Crosby from Lockwood Partners for donating her time and expertise again in preparing our Financial Statement for 2025.

In my role as Treasurer, I thank the Committee for there continued support and in particularly Leanne who took over the Treasurer's role in my absences during the year.

Peter Caton

**Treasurer
The Foundry Arts Space Inc.**



Friends of the gallery admire the artworks in the 'Members Gallery' Exhibition



The opening of 'War Dogs - They Also Served' by Sarah Wallace-Smith

INCOME EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
Income		
Memberships	2,290.00	5,186.55
Interest	809.41	5.21
Donations	682.04	1,038.05
Grants	-	4,470.00
Commission on Sales	9,703.75	11,949.21
Sponsorship - MBC	8,000	-
Venue Hire	605.00	426.00
Workshops	-	-
Exhibition Fees	4,770.00	3,290.00
Arts prize income	11,404.50	-
Miscellaneous Income	765.78	589.25
	39,030.48	26,954.27
Expenditure		
RAV Membership	275.00	305.00
Insurance-RAV Public Liability	990.00	990.00
Consumer Affairs Victoria	147.00	-
Administration	10,703.50	15,382.77
Bank Fees (inc. Merchant Fees)	1,133.12	1,185.66
Postage, Printing and Stationery	359.18	568.60
Utilities	2,682.65	1,933.61
Office expenses	-	303.75
Rates / Rent	1,368.30	1,331.10
Entertainment	-	400.00
Exhibition general expenses	842.28	1,010.15
General Expenses	164.60	122.48
Memberships	-	-
Subscriptions	-	-
Technology	1,354.82	1,063.15
Telephone costs	1,023.73	931.00
Artists costs	-	40.00
Arts Prize costs	6,622.72	-
Workshop costs	-	77.75
Foundry Expenses	-	-
Repairs and Maintenance	-	112.70
	27,666.90	25,757.72
Surplus (Deficit) for Year	11,363.58	1,196.55

ASSETS LIABILITIES STATEMENT

As at 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
Assets		
Cash at Bank General account	24,462.98	24,209.44
Cash at Bank Arts Prize sub committee	9,835.50	15,445.37
Term deposit	20,806.33	20,000.00
Cash on hand	100.00	100.00
Accounts receivable	2,500.00	500.00
Fittings	7,426.02	6,225.77
Total Assets	65,130.83	66,480.58
Liabilities		
Grants in advance / Income	2,085.00	-
Amounts payable to Artists	329.00	4,549.00
Arts Prize income in advance	-	10,375.00
Accounts payable	1,322.94	1,526.27
Total Liabilities	3,736.94	16,450.27
Net Assets	61,393.89	50,030.31
Members Funds		
Retained surplus at start of year	50,030.31	48,833.76
Surplus (Deficit) for Year	11,363.58	1,196.55
Total Members Funds	61,393.89	50,030.31

Peter Caton
Treasurer
15 October 2025

EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS REPORT

The Foundry continues to provide a great exhibition space for our local and regional artists.

It gives artists an opportunity to showcase their work to the wider community. It also provides workshop opportunities, the ability to sell work and education about the arts in general.

We had a great range of artists reflecting their individual styles, mediums and artistic statements. This included such paintings, sculptures, ceramics, digital art, photography, basket making and textiles. Artists ranged from established professionals to young emerging talents and school-aged participants.

Each year The Foundry provides opportunities for community groups to exhibit their work.



The Foundry Members Arts Market, Adam Witchell who does the signage for the exhibitions

This included -

- The NAIDOC exhibition was a highlight in 2025 with the theme 'Our Women Our Strength'
- Shepparton Textile group with the theme 'Chrysalis'

Other key exhibitions were

- The 'Nature Speaks' art prize was very successful. Over 54 entries were received.
- Campaspe Shire Youth Arts Festival exhibition for youth who participated in the Ripplefest festival
- Hosted a travelling exhibition 3 Well Known Australians which has been travelling over Australia
- More members exhibition opportunities were made available too.

What's more over 10,000 visitors came to view and enjoy the space and the art.

A big thank you to all the members of the Exhibition team who assist in selecting the program, curating it and managing the exhibitions. They are Penny, Kerry, Gav, Judi, Kristen, Liz and Jenny.

Jenny Turner

**Events & Exhibition
The Foundry Arts Space Inc.**

EXHIBITIONS EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

JULY 2024 - JUNE 2025

Exhibitions & Events

Walking Through the Decades
Nature Speaks Art Prize
Book of Days - Time & Figure
Formed by Time
Domestic Bliss
Chrysalis
Members Arts Market
Girls, Goddesses, Greatness
Members Gallery

Unearthed Council's Youth Action
Group (YAG), Ripple Fest and the
Foundry Arts Space
Three Well Known Australians
War Dogs - They Also Served
Addictogenic Landscapes
Campaspe Artists Studio Trail

Osmosis

Njernda Aboriginal Corporation
The Foundry Arts Space
Lu Bennett
Christopher Sheldon
Mr Dimples
Shepparton Textile Artists Inc
The Foundry Arts Space members
Isabelle Kawai Vincent
Selected Foundry Arts Space
members
Campaspe Shire Council

Martin Shaw
Sarah Wallace-Smith
Kristen Dyer
Elizabeth Jaworski, Penny Silver,
Kathleen Watson
Kathleen Watson, Heather Turner,
Joan Stevens, Jess Szigethy

Workshops & Artists Talks

Make It Craft Group
Njernda Morning Tea
Artist Talk
Demonstration and Workshop

Local artists
Campaspe Shire Council
Lu Bennett
Isabelle Kawai Vincent

VISIT ANALYSIS

VISITOR ANALYSIS JULY 2024 - JUNE 2025			
MONTH	VISITOR NUMBERS	DAYS OPEN	DAYS CLOSED
July	1,210		
August	582		
September	767		
October	551		
November	788		
December	980		
January	1,417		
February	613		
March	768		
April	1,460		
May	760		
June	512		
Total	10,408		



'Osmosis' exhibition, 31st January - 23rd February, 2025, woven baskets by artist Heather Turner



Kevin Simpson and Campaspe Shire Council Mayor Daniel Mackrell enjoying 'Adictogenic Landscapes' exhibition by artist Kristen Dyer

SPONSORSHIP & SUPPORT

The Foundry Art Space continues to grow as a creative hub, thanks to the generous support of our local community and sponsors.

We're grateful to Morrisons Riverview Winery & Restaurant for providing wines at our opening events, helping us create a welcoming atmosphere.

The Paramount Cinema, Echuca Caravan and Outdoor, Vast Creative, and the Campaspe Shire have all played a valuable role in supporting our activities.

Peter Walsh's office assisted with printing costs, and 104.7 EMFM helped spread the word through local radio. Sponsorship and support from Moama Bowling Club enables us to employ an administration assistant. We also appreciate the ongoing support from the Riverine Herald and Provide Technology. The officers and councillors of the Shire of Campaspe continue to be important partners in our work.

Judi Lawler
Chairperson
The Foundry Arts Space Inc.



MARKETING & MEDIA REPORT

Social media platforms have expanded our reach as posts that are shared to Echuca and Moama Facebook pages are well received. Connections through Regional Arts Victoria have increased since we made improved contact. Our website is alive and well and for this we are grateful for valued support from Vast Creative.

Riverine Herald journalists and photographers have shown up many times and both their print and digital coverage of our events has been appreciated. Connections and collaborations with community, Shire of Campaspe, and Njernda through RippleFest and NAIDOC were noticed, noted and appreciated.

Community radio emfm104.7 is a regular supporter and surrounding towns with local newsletters offer reciprocal promotions.



Opening of 'Formed By Time' exhibition by artist Christopher Shelton 23 August 2024

Penny Silver's superbly designed exhibition flyers are the basis for short form videos (reels) which have attracted high responses. Posters are displayed in shop windows thanks to Marg McMullen and Vivid.

The newsletter has been published regularly, aligning with every second exhibition opening. The newsletter is emailed out to a large mailing list of members and others and it is also published on the website. Printed copies are always available in the gallery.

With a high quality exhibitions program throughout the year, boosted by our pop up members galleries, it's easy to present quality information to the public.

Once again I implore and encourage members and supporters to keep on #tagging, @mentioning and sharing our notices and posts from The Foundry Arts Space. When you do this, our good news is spread further and faster! Word-of-mouth should never be under valued, so you're reminded to keep on chatting and telling your friends about The Foundry Arts Space, just in case they don't do Facebook or don't read their emails.

Liz Dellar

**Marketing & Media
The Foundry Arts Space Inc.**

VOLUNTEERS & MEMBERS REPORT

Membership of the Foundry Arts Space entitles you to receive information on art events and competitions from around our region via email, newsletters and social media.

Access to the annual members exhibition allows you to exhibit and sell your artwork for no fee. It also supports the ongoing costs of the Foundry. This year we have 75 financial members.

Our volunteers do an outstanding job in keeping our doors open six days a week all year. Their friendly faces welcome visitors, offering insights into the current exhibition and completing art sales.

Although we have many names in our 95 volunteer data base, there is a dedicated 30 who regularly volunteer.

We are extremely grateful to these folk, who are the public face of the Foundry.

Volunteering is about sharing a love of arts and meeting new people. Some of our volunteers are artists, but many just have a love of art and wish to be involved. If this sounds interesting to you, we would love to welcome you into the Foundry family.

Contact details are on our website www.thefoundryartsspace.org.au.

Judi Lawler
Chairperson
The Foundry Arts Space Inc.



Volunteer Marita Chappell, always welcoming visitors with a smile



Volunteer Leanne Picone catches up with a friend at one of the many exhibitions held at The Foundry Arts Space



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