

# Strathnairn Arts Association 2022 President Report

Dear members

I am writing this report on behalf of our former President Tim Bohm and Interim President Nanette Bak who guided the Association throughout 2022 (Nanette took over from Tim in November 2022).

Firstly, on behalf of the Board and members I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land where Strathnairn is located, the Ngunnawal and Ngambri people, and pay our respects to elders past and present.

The best part of 2022 has been the return to normal levels of activity at Strathnairn following the COVID years. Our artists have been on site more, the use of our facilities has increased, and, our exhibition program has been extensive with our artists proudly sharing their excellent work with the people of Canberra and the region.

Importantly, we have been successful in our application to the artsACT Arts Organisation Investment Program, under the *Canberra: Australia's Arts Capital - a statement of ambition for the Arts 2021-26*. The award is for funding and a licence for 2023 and 2024, with potential for a further three years arrangement.

We know that artists need facilities and, just as importantly, constructive and engaging interactions with peers, mentors and the community. Our priorities therefore for 2023 are:

- On-boarding the new Board and Strathnairn team and engaging with our artists
- Finalising with artsACT the new Deed of Grant and Licence agreement and updating the Strathnairn Business Plan to deliver on the programs under the artsACT award
- Developing and delivering the 2023 and 2024 artist and community program and ensuring our facilities are the best they can be

There have been some people changes in the team. A very warm welcome to our new Director, James Holland, who has taken over from Peter Haynes from April 2023. We farewelled our Business Manager, Leah Molony, in January 2023 (her role has been included in James new role), and Rachel Hollier our Marketing Manager left in December 2022. Welcome to Wendy Dawes our new Marketing Manager. Di Libke has continued to run our excellent shop and front of house and Phillip Van Zmeren has continued as our book-keeper. Every day you all support our artists in so many ways.

On behalf of the Board and members, thank you Peter, Leah and Rachel for your excellent leadership and hard work over many years in making Strathnairn a place where artists can work and thrive.

There has also been some changes to the Board. Board membership in 2022 was: President/Chair - Tim Bohm and from November Nanette Bak; Vice President/Deputy Chair - Nanette Bak; Secretary - Joanne Searle; Treasurer - Martin Fitzpatrick to May 2023; Member - Shannon Wilson-McClinton.

On behalf of the Board and members thank you Tim, Nanette and Martin, for your leadership and contributions to Strathnairn over many years. We wish you well for the future.

And we thank artsACT and the Minister for the Arts, Tara Cheyenne, for their continued support of the work and potential for Strathnairn.

In closing, the Board especially thanks our artists for their many many contributions in 2022. Strathnairn is a member organisation and everyone's care for Strathnairn and willingness to contribute is evident and very welcome.

The love and hopes we all have for the potential for Strathnairn is clear.

Trevor Heldt

President/Chair on behalf of the Strathnairn Arts Association Board

25 May 2023