

Celebrating 50 years in 2026

Art-I-Facts



March 2026
Volume 48 Issue 1

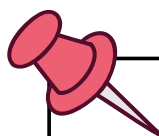


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Front Cover

The mural on the wall of Sturgess Building, designed by Josh Wright and painted by Josh and his partner Essa, captures the idea of nurturing our inner child. The child is in black and white and symbolises a life devoid of colour without art. The vibrant flowerpot represents the transformation that occurs when we allow creativity to flourish, reminding us of the joy and wonder of things.



Art-I-Facts Dates to Note

Articles to be forwarded to Editor
by following dates:

June Issue: Friday 22 May

September Issue: Friday 21 August

December Issue: Friday 20 November

President's Report

Hi to everyone, and as per normal, I hope this finds you and your loved ones, well and enjoying life. In our previous edition of Art-I-Facts, I talked about the Xmas break; doesn't time fly. It is now March 2026 already.

As the Centre has not been fully operational over the last two months or so, my report to you is short, to give you a quick overview of where we are at heading into the 2026 year. The forthcoming year is showing it will be an exciting year especially with the 50th Anniversary celebrations underway.

Lease with SCC Update:

We are still discussing with the Sunshine Coast Council (SCC) a lease going forward. Our previous lease expired in December 2025 but we have been provided with a temporary lease whilst we try to finalise the current draft lease under discussion.

Will keep you up to date.

North Street Made (NSM):

In my previous report, I mentioned we have been working with a marketing group to try and assist in the promotion of the gift shop out into the Community. This process was primarily focused on the December 2025 and January 2026 periods. We are now reviewing the outcome of this process.

50th Anniversary:

2026 brings in the 50th Anniversary of the Centre. So much has happened over that period, and 50 years is a momentous period to celebrate what has been and is being achieved. Plans are in place and being implemented to ensure this milestone is celebrated and acknowledged out in the Community. We will be providing to you in the near future, a detailed overview of the celebration plans.

Group Reports:

Please read the group reports in this issue as they provide an inspiring snapshot of the activities at CACA.

Committee:

CACA's Annual General Meeting took place on Monday 23 February 2026. The Management Committee are volunteers and we, as a team, strive in working towards serving all members in fostering a creative and inclusive community environment at the centre.

Thank you.

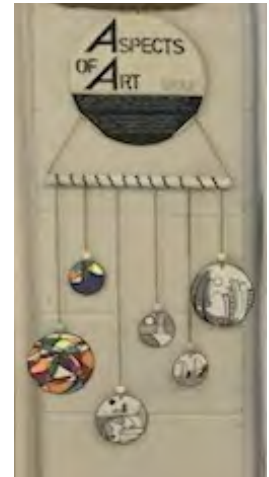
Mike McDonald OAM
President.



Aspects of Art

Our group has been intensively involved in working on our 'Wrap The Building in Art' activity.

We have wrapped a wide calico painted bandage around a besser brick pole under the central awning. Another one of our projects was to have each member choose some of their best works and glue them on to black painted prepared canvas. We have arranged them in a mobile inside a window to display all our different styles. We found this activity challenging but great fun.



2026 has seen us gather a few members from the Pastellist Group which has had to disband, as well as a few new members wishing to 'test the waters' of the Aspects of Art group. We now have members ranging in age from 20 to, you guessed it, late 80s. The intergenerational sharing of ideas is very stimulating and interesting.

Our three facilitators, Patti Kronk, Bev Black and myself are able to combine our skills to make our group a friendly art support group for anyone from raw beginner to experienced artist.

Anne Wensley - joint facilitator



P-Plate Painters



The Art for Scaredy Cats Group began 2026 with a new name and a new purpose after just a 'blip' in our Association's half Century timeline. Now called "P-Plate Painters", the group which once asked their teacher to "Please assume we know nothing!", in time inevitably came to realise they were "Not so" Scaredy Cats after all.

So, no more "L" plates! Instead, with all the optimistic, risk-taking, creative sense of adventure of brand new P-Platers, we look forward to continuing the enjoyable and rewarding journey we have shared over the last eight years into 2026 and beyond.

Congratulations CACA and a happy 50th anniversary everyone!





Quilters

Our 2026 year commenced with a “bang” as many of our members participated in a whole week of Sit and Sew from January 5th to 11th. This gave our members the opportunity to finish some of their UFO’s and the challenge organised by our member, Cynthia. Orphaned blocks were presented in a brown paper bag at the end of 2025 and each member was surprised when they opened their little parcel and challenged with the task of making their orphan block into something useful. The week’s work was a great success with some great results.

AGM: Our AGM will be held on 13th February where we will not only vote for our Committee for the coming year but it will be an opportunity to catch up with the plans and proposals for 2026. Some of our events scheduled are:

WORKSHOPS:

Our first workshop will be on February 28th where we will be presenting a Sit and Sew style workshop where those attending will learn Kawandi Quilting. This is a style of hand quilting originating from the Siddi community of Karnataka, India.

Our second workshop will be a two-day event on 13th and 14th June with an external tutor, Nick Wilson, where he will show us how to do free motion quilting (Quilt As You Go) and ruler quilting. Our BOM sessions will be continuing from 2025 and continuing to June 2026. It will be exciting to see the results of these blocks.

Still in the planning stages is a day to make a Jelly Roll Race Quilt. Many of us have made one in our quilting years but it is thought we will definitely make it a “Race”?

All interested members will be participating in a Collaborative Quilt to be displayed at our Caloundra Arts Centre Association (CACA) 50th Anniversary celebration on Saturday 28th March.

So our year has begun with many opportunities for workshops with lots of learning and interesting workshops making 2026 an eventful year for all of us.

BIENNIAL QUILT SHOW 2027:

There will be no Quilt show this year but reserve the date for our Quilt Show in 2027. It will be held at the Caloundra Arts Centre, North Street, Caloundra on 17th and 18th July.

Caloundra Quilters meet every Friday morning from 9.00am to 12noon and Tuesday evenings from 6.30pm to 9.30pm at Caloundra Arts Centre, 5 North Street, Caloundra. We aim to promote, foster and educate in the craft of patchwork, applique and quilting. A high standard of design and technique is encouraged, with our members sharing their knowledge. In-house workshops are held regularly where new skills and techniques are shared. We have a substantial library with many books, patterns and subscription magazines available for borrowing. Bus trips are organised on a regular basis and members attend Craft and Quilt shows. Annual Quilt Retreats are well attended. If you are interested in joining our group we invite you to “come and see” what we do.

Sylvia Hovey



Hard Pressed Printers

Welcome back all members of C.A.C.A. to 2026. It promises to be an exciting and eventful journey as we celebrate 50 years of Caloundra Arts and Craft Association. We hope all members had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and have returned to begin the new year with renewed creative energies.

Once again Hard Pressed Printers are back on Wednesday afternoons pursuing the challenge of creating the perfect print. We begin our year with two new members. Welcome Sally Piper and Leanne Acres. It is always exciting to welcome new members. We ended the 2025 year with a Christmas lunch at the centre. Festive headbands, secret santa bags and delicious food plates contributed to a friendly enjoyable occasion. Many thanks to Lin Smith who once again created a gorgeous Christmas Cake for us all to share. Lin's baking definitely elevated our lunch to something special.

For an end of year activity several members used the Scan'n'cut machine to create unique and colourful bon bons for their Christmas tables. Printed and painted papers were cut on the machine using a downloaded bon bon pattern. Saving the pattern into the Scan'n'cut machine memory will allow its use again for next Christmas.

H.P.P. held its' Annual General Meeting on 11th February. We welcome in our 2026 committee. Once again Lin Smith has kindly taken on the position of Group Leader and 1st key holder. Susan Dickie will continue as our able and efficient Treasurer, assisted this year by Meria Atkin as Vice Treasurer. The office of Secretary and 2nd key holder is once again a monthly rotated position. Dianne Hine continues to write Art-I-Facts. Barbi Hemming continues her role as New Member Support and Ellen Kelly also continues to look after H.P.P. resources. Jann McLennan and Blanche Hawthorne will act as H.P.P. representatives on the Fair Committee. Thankyou to all members who have taken on a role this year. Your efforts help to make H.P.P. the happy welcoming group it is.

H.P.P. has also elected to support a charity this year. House of Hope has been chosen for the support they give to women fleeing domestic violence. We aim to give an annual donation to this group re-inforcing our social connections and responsibility to others in our community.

As is the tradition in H.P.P. we have once again set 4 art challenges for 2026 year.

1. Design a personalised printed WORK APRON.
- 2 Explore a "FABULOUS 50 C.A.C.A." printed design or collage.
3. Make an ARTIST BOOK or JOURNAL.
4. Create a print inspired by ideas and resources from the H.P.P. LIBRARY collection.

In the spirit of "Let's show on the outside what we do on the inside" H.P.P. aims to create a "FOREST OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITY" incorporating the 50th anniversary theme. Our installation will hang in the undercover area near the Kingfisher room and will contain interactive elements. Future workshops and Wednesday afternoons will focus efforts towards the project. We are hoping to create a stunning display for all to enjoy.

Sounds like a very busy year ahead so from H.P.P. till next time...



Happy Yarners

2026 And here we are again, small in numbers but great in friendship, commitment and knitting or crocheting what we can for the 50th anniversary decorative challenge. 😊

Over the Christmas break I think we all had a “go” at making something for our chosen site – the pole at the front entry to the courtyard.

Definitely challenging to knit 7' long pieces as backing for our chosen theme. Then there's the accents to mount. We'll get there.

Thank you to all our wonderful members, always there to do whatever needs being done. My many sincere thanks to you all.

Linda Buchanan – another Happy Yarner.



LET'S DANCE!

celebrating
50 years
of **CACA**
est 1976

70's
theme

WEAR YOUR BEST
70's GEAR -
PRIZES TO BE WON!

Saturday
28 March

3pm - 8pm

**BYO DRINKS,
NIBBLES &
DANCE MOVES!**

Special appearance by
CACAPHONICS

PRE-PURCHASE ONLY

BUY FROM YOUR GROUP LEADER
(CASH PREFERRED)

NO TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

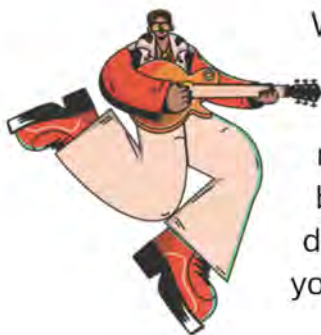
BBQ
5-7pm
CASH ONLY

Door Raffle

\$10
TICKET
MEMBERS +
PARTNERS
ONLY

Hip Hip Hooray for CACA ... 50 years!

As you all know, this year we proudly celebrate our 50-year anniversary—and we have an exciting lineup of events and projects to mark the occasion. Check the event calendar and join in the fun!



We're kicking things off with a fabulous **'70s-themed celebration party** on Saturday, March 28, from 3–8pm at the Caloundra Arts Centre. Not mandatory — but highly encouraged for extra fun: break out your best '70s outfit and show off your best dance moves for a chance to win a prize! Contact your group leader for tickets.

Throughout the year, look out for results of **art wrapping the Caloundra Arts Centre** building, our **Small Artworks FUNraising project**, and a special **History Display Installation**. In July there will be **Wondrous Winter Workshops & Artist Talks** as well as **Open Days**, followed by — drumroll — the opening of the **CACA time capsule** in October.



Behind the scenes, we're also working on an **improved website** and **refreshed street signage** as we step confidently into the future.

*Community... Connect... Create...
we can't wait to Celebrate with you all!*



the Anniversary Steering Team (February 2026)

Community... Connect... Create... Celebrate!



SMALL ARTWORKS

FUNRAISING PROJECT

As we celebrate 50 years of creativity at the Caloundra Arts Centre, we're inviting **all CACA groups and members** to take part in a special **Small Artworks FUNraising** project.

The concept is very simple:

Create one -or more- small, square(-ish) artwork no larger than 21x21 cm, in any medium! Works must be professionally presented, ready to hang, and donated to CACA.

Everybody is encouraged to participate, across all mediums and skill levels!

Throughout the year, these works will be featured and sold in various public fundraising occasions at CACA, highlighting the diversity and talent across our 22 groups. This ongoing initiative gives all members the opportunity to have creative fun while helping **fund our anniversary celebrations** and **support the future of our Caloundra Arts Centre**.

Submit finished artworks to your group leader.
Submission date round #1 is 20 April, 2026, with more rounds throughout the year.
[Further details of the project briefing are available from your group leader.](#)

Let's get started—get creative, have fun!



Community... Connect... Create... Celebrate!

Art Wrap





North Street Made



'The Reef' by Joan Sayer

Joan is a Potter at heart and is also a very skilled and creative embroiderer. As is the case with many of the members at Caloundra Arts Centre, Joan, who is a lifetime member of the association, has taken inspiration from the ocean views here on the Sunshine Coast. This piece is predominately embroidered incorporating several tiny pieces of pottery to make up the underwater view. It tells a story.

'An Embellished Felted Bowl' by Sandi Litfin

Sandi is a longtime attendee of the Textile and Fibre Arts Group at CACA and is grateful for the opportunities for skill development and the guidance she has received from fellow members of the group. Felting is a creative and intricate technique, allowing the artist to mould and shape fibres into any desired shapes.



'Rossette Pin' by Marjorie Pavitt

Marjorie also is a Textile and Fibre Artist and along with her felted jewellery has the most delightful, felted book covers and glasses cases for sale in Caloundra Arts Centre's gallery.

'Nest of Eggs' by Margie Shanahan

As an enthusiastic member of Caloundra Potters, Margie prefers the hand-building method to create her works because she says she finds it enjoyable and meditative. These charming little miniature bowls and houses are a few examples of her work on display at the gallery.

We look forward to your visit!



OPEN 7 DAYS | 10 AM - 2 PM
Caloundra Arts Centre
5 North Street, Caloundra



Pottery

Hello there everybody,

We welcome all our members back after a delightful festive season with our families and friends. It was great to be potting together again and to have a good catch up.

Our shelf maintenance crew, donned personal safety gear and spent a few hours grinding off glaze “sticks” and preparing the kiln shelves for another year of firing our work. It’s a bit of a grunt and during the summer months it’s a hot job, but together they finished up after painting the protective wash onto the shelves. Thank you shelf maintenance team!

We began the year with the AGM and all positions were successfully filled. Cath has kindly taken on the leadership role again this year. Vicki and Cath will assist her. We’re grateful to all those who put their hand up to contribute to the smooth running of the group.

Numerous events have been planned throughout this year, as it’s our 50th year celebration. These include, the opening of a time capsule, a 70’s Dance Party in March. Wonderous Workshops will be held in July. These courses will be open to members and the general public. Our commemorative bird bath is curing and we all look forward to seeing the finished piece.

We recently welcomed 5 new members into our pottery group. Cath and Patti spent time last week, orientating them with our equipment, highlighting protocols regarding safety and the use of all machinery and materials. It’s always great to meet new potters, share ideas and be inspired by their unique abilities.

Recently we have had some electrical and maintenance work done on our kilns. It was interesting to hear in the AGM report from Susan, just how many firings were carried out in the past year. Thank you for monitoring the health of the kilns, Susan and initiating work to keep them performing well.

Potters are already preparing items for our Mothers Day Fair to be in May. It’s a great opportunity to showcase our work to the general public and support other groups in CACA for the weekend event. All members are encouraged to exhibit and it was great to see some of our newer members courageously putting their pots out for sale.

A Destash Market Day will be held on March 7th. Members from each CACA group are encouraged to donate pre-loved art and craft items which will be sold at the market. All proceeds will go towards raising funds for the Centre.

We are off to a good start this year, with healthy attendances each Tuesday. Once a month members can attend an extra Monday as well and we will begin making the pottery space available for night sessions on Tuesdays very soon. All members are welcome any of those sessions.

Margie Shanahan.



MEGS

Megs has started off the year busy with our display for the building wrap.

We welcome the sewing ladies back hoping a few more might join them.

Our first project is a sewing machine mat made on the embroidery machine with Wendy taking the lead.

We are looking for some more ladies to join our small group so if you are interested come along and have look at what we do.

We are here every Monday from 9 till 4.

Carolyn



Friday Art

Our Friday Art Group kicked off the new year with a refreshed team and a new group leader, Caroline Sorensen. We congratulate Caroline and her team and are excited to start the new year under her leadership. We'd like to express our heartfelt appreciation to our previous leader Janelle Dempster, whose cheerful nature and impressive organisational skills have been invaluable. Janelle's dedication over the years has made a lasting impact, and we pay tribute to her outstanding contributions. It's thanks to our volunteers and group leaders that members can enjoy everything our community art centre has to offer, and we truly couldn't do it without them.

With the Friday Art Group now in full swing, we're pleased to offer three different session times so every member can find a slot that fits their routine. Our doors are open to people from all walks of life and every corner, creating the welcoming environment that makes our group special. Members are already working on some brilliant pieces, and we can't wait for a year packed with artistic expression, collaboration, and a strong sense of community.

Friday Art Group Team for 2026

The Friday Art Group has established its team for 2026, following our recent annual meeting. Below is a structured overview of the roles and responsibilities for the coming year.

Group Leader:

Caroline Sorensen

Treasurers:

Jill Pearson – Treasurer

Elle Clifford – Assistant Treasurer

New Membership Coordinators:

Janelle Dempster

Ruth Bowie

Fair Convenor:

Jeanette Edwards

ART-I-FACTS Coordinator:

Amanda Manton

Session Teams:

Session 1 – 7:30 am: Barb Farlow and Penny Young

Session 2 – 11 am: Elle Clifford and Pat Jones

Session 3 – 2 pm: Pat Jones and Elle Clifford

Display Cabinet Coordinators:

Barb Farlow and Penny Young

Events & Christmas Coordinators:

Berenice Little and Penny Condon



Stitchers

Greetings and best wishes for the new year to all.

Our AGM on Wednesday 11.02.2026 welcomed the following New Committee:

President: Paulene Jones,

Secretary: Cheryl Mayne,

Treasurer: Jacquelyn Faiella,

Providore: Denise Jennings,

Bring & buy: Hilary Holt,

Care Coordinator: Marilyn Owen,

Membership, Meet and greet: Carmen Brown,

Library; Sue Chilman,

Charity; Sharon Ryan

volunteer assistants to the above positions: Judy Scott.(see photos).

Our gratitude goes to the outgoing Committee led by ex President Jenny Giacobone for their great enthusiasm and dedication on our behalf.

With the advent of CACA 50 years strong presence at Caloundra, Stitchers is contributing with a variety of visual displays (see photos).

Happy 50th anniversary year CACA.

Let's keep crafting (and socialising) alive and well for another 50 years.





Creative Arts

This year has started of with a bang as always. While we are still thinking that we have just finished Christmas, it won't be long before we are laybying Christmas gifts for this year!

Creative Art Finished last year and started this year exhibiting at Beerwah Library. This gives our group to have our artwork on display to the public, especially for those in our group who are reticent to do so, thus inspiring confidence in their work. Well done fellow Groupings, we had good feedback from the library.

We welcome new members Di Svokos and Carol Arrowsmith to our group.

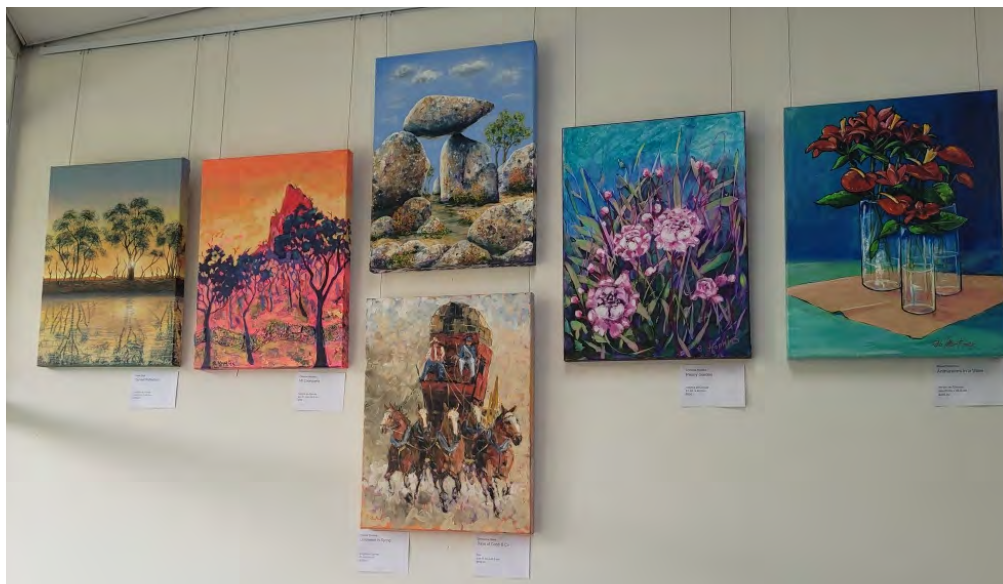
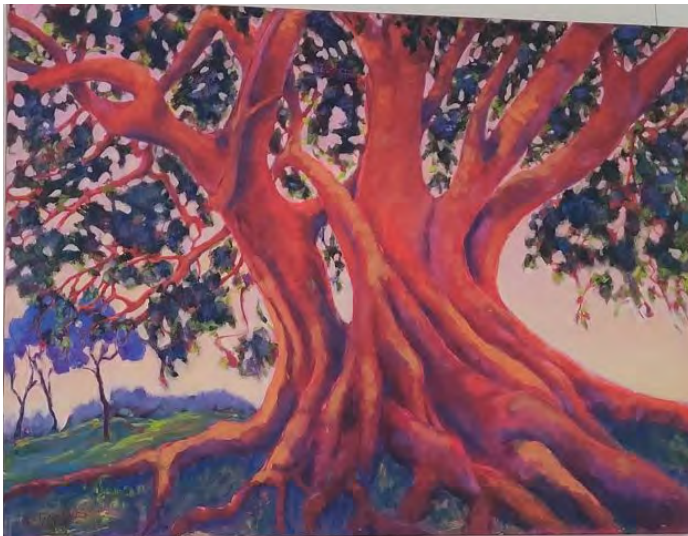
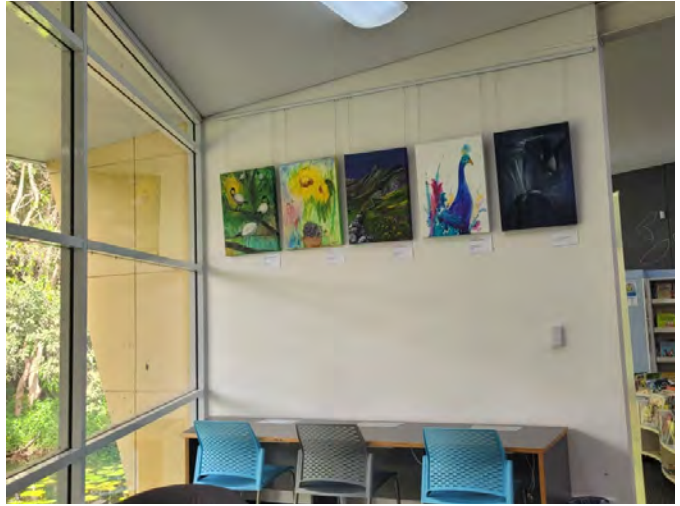
A few members will be away on holidays over the next month so it will be a quiet few weeks ahead.

As 2026 is the 50th Celebration of CACA, our group are currently undertaking a project to reflect this. On one of the pillars outside our art room we will be having a 70s themed artwork encompassing the pillar, reflecting the era of when CACA began.

We are looking forward to celebrating the 50th anniversary of CACA over the year, and look forward to seeing other group projects – already looking exciting!

Best wishes to All!





Embroiderers

Welcome 2026!! It is going to be a good year with “our” CACA celebrating 50 years of creativeness, pleasure and companionship.

Here at Embroiderers, our AGM has seen a changing of the guard. I’ve handed over the keys to our very capable and lovely Dot Black. Dot will be assisted by Celia Mulheran. During the course of that meeting, we thanked Margaret Deakin for her tireless work as our Treasurer. As well as the hand-over of the keys, of course the Artifacts writings have also been handed over, so this is my swan song.

Many of you will have notice Part 1 of Embroiderers 50th Celebration Decoration in the Blue Heron room. Part 2 is following, hopefully toward the end of March. We all are thrilled to see the various pieces of art being displayed around our Centre – especially the mural near the fire hose of the Sturgess Wing. It has been fabulous watching this creation come to life. Personally, I’d love to see something like this right across the front wall of our Centre!!

Please feel free to drop in for an afternoon for a visit if you feel you might be interested – we’d love to see you. We meet on Thursday afternoons between 1.00pm and 4.00pm in the Crafty Pelican room.

Enjoy.





Kendall Morton MP · Follow

1d · 🌐

The ART ❤️ HEART ❤️ of Caloundra!

The Caloundra Arts Centre in North Street is a hub of activity with quilting, painting, pottery, textiles, you name it!

The WHOLE community is welcome here - I just love it ❤️

Thanks for having me, I can't wait until next time



Sue Dickie abd Mike McDonald
with
Kendall Morton MP in NSM

**NORTH
STREET
MADE**

Artisan gift shop

CALOUNDRA ARTS CENTRE

OPEN 7 DAYS | 10 AM - 2 PM
5 North Street, Caloundra



Joshua Wright
with
Kendall Morton MP



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Info@caloundraartscentre.org.au

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