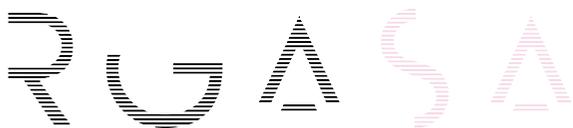


REGIONAL GALLERIES ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT
2017/18



As the peak body for not-for-profit galleries in regional South Australia, our role is to advocate for the role galleries play in healthy communities, provide inspiring professional development for members and to entice collaborators with mutual interests to join us, thereby strengthening our capacity to achieve our principle aim - to have a vibrant network of regional galleries enriching local communities, artists and the arts across our regions..

Our **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2017-2019** are a reflection of members' aspirations and needs.

Professional development and networking opportunities to increase the capacity of members to deliver high quality, valued outcomes in their communities

Partnership Engagement Strategy to support the activities of member galleries and share resources with organisations that share common goals through a partnership engagement strategy

Provide a conduit between curators, artists and regional galleries in the development of vibrant, challenging and relevant programming

Advocacy and promotion to enable us to function as a highly visible and influential sector and an attractive partner in both the visual arts sector and more broadly as a significant partner in recreation, wellbeing, tourism and economic development within members' communities

Good Governance maintains a strong and vibrant organisation to fulfil our commitments to members and key stakeholders

Maintain and build a cohesive collaborative network of regional galleries to maintain financial stability, to increase the skills base across the state and to increase the visibility and impact of our work

BUILDING CAPACITY • PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The quarterly meetings of the Association in Adelaide are a welcome opportunity for members to share current issues and news. Members unable to travel regularly are able to keep in touch via e-news and meeting reports.

For the second year, RGASA took a leadership role in the sector, managing the public gallery sector forum, *Same Same But Different* in partnership with Museums Galleries Australia (SA) in June 2018. Held in the Radford Auditorium (courtesy of partner, the Art Gallery of SA), we gathered together representatives from a majority of South Australia's public sector galleries for valuable networking and discussion of common issues.

The forum specifically addressed 'Speaking to Decision Makers in their own language' and 'Valuing Volunteers', issues identified by the forum the previous year.

Speakers included Executive Director of NAVA, Esther Anatolitis, Anne Robertson of Public Galleries Association of Victoria, Tracey Fox, Executive Director Volunteering SA, Kim Jameson from Galleries West/Art on the Move, National Director of Museums Galleries Australia, Alex Marsden, and our host Art Gallery of SA (Lisa Slade) outlined plans including for Adelaide Contemporary.

Forum attendance: 65 - 29 regional and 26 Metro - local government (18), community galleries (9), ARIs (8), Museums (3), State/Federal Government-funded (8 reps from the three funded galleries) Universities (6) plus 14 reps from various industry bodies, including 5 speakers.

Read the full forum report [here](#).

RGASA is assisting Kapunda Community Gallery to develop an investment partnership with the Light Regional Council which will see support for an administrator to assist the volunteer management team and for a touring exhibition of artists from the region.

PARTNERSHIPS • ENGAGEMENT

During this period, RGASA developed an Engagement Plan (an appendix to the Strategic Priorities 2017-2019) which includes a methodology to advocate for restoring and increasing the level of government investment in regional galleries, to work with our colleagues nationally to standardise data collection and formalise gallery standards, to engage new partners for the delivery of public programming, to build our professional networks and to take advantage of our recently acquired charitable organisations tax deductibility status.

The Project Officer's attendance at the National Galleries Summit in March 2018 resulted in new relationships which provided speakers for the State Forum, as well as ongoing discussions with interstate colleagues regarding standardised data collection, benchmarking and developing national gallery standards. RGASA is currently negotiating a partnership with MGA(SA) in which RGASA is funded to collect data not currently collected centrally.

Our evolving relationship with **Museums Galleries Australia (SA)** and our co-presentation of the 2018 State Forum continues to bring us into closer dialogue with wide-ranging sub-sectors of South Australia's public galleries, many of whom have limited opportunities for regular dialogue with other like-minded colleagues, increasing the profile of RGASA as a sector leader and strengthening the sectors' ability to address interests and sector developments common to all, and sharing professional development and resources.

Our fruitful relationship with the Art Gallery of South Australia continues to evolve and we thank them for the generous use of spaces for our regular meetings and for the State Forum in June 2018, as well as access to curators and exhibitions. RGASA also continues to collaborate with **Art Gallery of South Australia** and **Country Arts SA** in a joint partnership to deliver the exhibition *Robyn Stacey: Ray of Light* for a 2018-2020 regional tour. RGASA is providing bursaries to members to assist with touring costs.

We gratefully acknowledge Country Arts SA who provided essential core funding and ongoing support to SA regional galleries. We work closely with them to develop and deliver strategic outcomes for galleries across regional South Australia.

EXHIBITIONS • PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

RGASA is assisting Kapunda Community Gallery with itinerary development, planning and resourcing to develop a touring exhibition of works from the artists in the Light Region – *In the Light* and assisted curator Jo Wilmot with the groundwork to develop a regional tour of *Solastalgia*.

Development of a policy to distribute bursaries to member galleries as our contribution to the partnership with Country Arts SA and AGSA to present *Robyn Stacey: Ray of Light* has seen volunteer-managed galleries prioritised to receive assistance with touring fees. Bursaries of \$5000 in total will be paid over the next three years in the financial year in which the exhibition is presented.

GOVERNANCE • FINANCE

Country Arts SA remains a key 'in principle' supporter and currently our only source of income to fund a Project Officer, although not at the level to retain the position beyond December 2018. This loss of core funding has necessitated RGASA drawing on reserves during 2017/18.

During this period RGASA has developed a proposal for State and Local Governments to provide matched funding to at least restore the level of investment by State Government in regional galleries that has been lost over the last five years and to at least restore funding to RGASA to enable the continuation of the Project Officer position.

The proposal also outlines the case for a three-year partnership between State Government and Local Government that resurces the RGASA to provide professional development support to regional gallery staff, to support delivery of state-wide, standardised data collection and benchmarking across the museums and galleries sector and to broker partnerships to support projects which deliver for regional communities.

We have also proposed a three-year partnership between State Government and Local Government that delivers financial resources for regional galleries to deliver mutual strategic priorities for community and artist engagement through a three-tiered Investment Fund.

The case for funding and the proposal are scheduled to be presented to State Government prior to the budget being handed down in September 2018.

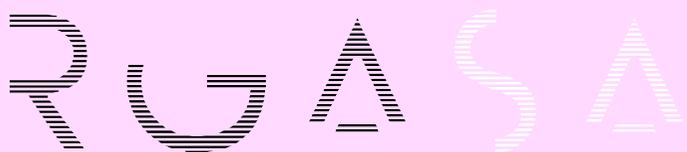
In January 2018, RGASA gained deductible gift recipient status and is now listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations. Subject to the Project Officer being retained by the organisation, RGASA is now in a position to pursue funding avenues not available before. RGASA has appointed John Voumard (Jamestown lawyer), Alex Boas (Kapunda JP) and Nicholas Linke (Partner, Fisher Jeffries lawyers) to administer the RGASA Public Fund to which donations must be paid.



COUNTRY
ARTS
SA



ART GALLERY
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA



2017/18 • MEMBERSHIP

RGASA welcomed **2** new **MEMBER GALLERIES** for a total of **19 MEMBERS**. We believe this is about 90% of regional not-for-profit galleries. During this period, we surveyed members to determine their professional development priorities, established a capped travel subsidy scheme to encourage members to travel more often to meet with each other, made more resources available online for members and began distributing a members' e-news.

ART MUSEUM OF KANGAROO ISLAND Kangaroo Island

BALAKLAVA COURTHOUSE GALLERY Balaklava

BAROSSA REGIONAL GALLERY Tanunda

BELALIE ART GALLERY Jamestown

BURRA REGIONAL ART GALLERY Burra

CLARE ART HOUSE Clare

COORONG ART GALLERY Taillem Bend

HAHNDORF ACADEMY Hahndorf

JAMFACTORY Barossa

KAPUNDA COMMUNITY GALLERY Kapunda

MILLICENT ART GALLERY Millicent

MURRAY BRIDGE REGIONAL GALLERY Murray Bridge

NARACOORTE ART GALLERY Naracoorte

NAUTILUS ART CENTRE Port Lincoln

PORT PIRIE REGIONAL ART GALLERY Port Pirie

RIDDOCH ART GALLERY Mount Gambier

ROXBYLINK ART GALLERY Roxby Downs

SOUTH COAST ART CENTRE & SIGNAL POINT GALLERY Goolwa

WALKWAY GALLERY Bordertown

2017/18 • EXECUTIVE

CHAIR Naomi Fallon, Director Walkway Gallery

DEPUTY CHAIR Rachel McElwee, Director Hahndorf Academy

SECRETARY Rachel McElwee, Director Hahndorf Academy (to December 2017)
Margaret Hancock Davis, Senior Curator, JamFactory@Seppeltsfield

TREASURER Melinda Rankin, Director, Murray Bridge Regional Gallery

2017/18 • PROJECT OFFICER

Jo Pike



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www.rgasa.org.au