



arts

MARGARET RIVER



Annual Report  
2023-2024



## PLACE

The town of Margaret River is firmly situated in the South West Boojarah region in Noongar booja (country). Noongar have lived in this part of booja since the Nyittingy – creation times.<sup>1</sup>

Arts Margaret River acknowledges and pays respect to past and present Traditional Custodians and Elders of Australia. In particular, we deeply respect the Wadandi people's ongoing connection to Country and the continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this region. We acknowledge over 75,000 years of living culture and knowledge and the country on which we create new stories through the arts.

As the major arts umbrella organisation in the stunning southwest Australian region of Augusta-Margaret River, Arts Margaret River proudly contributes to the sense of place through a rich and varied program of arts and creative events.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.noongar.org.au/noongar-protocols> South West Aboriginal Land & Sea Council



## CONTENTS

<b>President’s Report</b> .....	<b>4</b>	Revisions .....	16
<b>Treasurer’s Report</b> .....	<b>6</b>	Soul Kitchen Studio Sessions.....	17
<b>Reconciliation Action Plan Statement (RAP)</b> .....	<b>8</b>	A Taste of Ireland.....	17
<b>Access Belonging Inclusion Diversity &amp; Equity Statement (ABIDE)</b> .....	<b>8</b>	Barracking for the Umpire.....	17
<b>Margaret River Readers &amp; Writers Festival</b> .....	<b>10</b>	Make Music Day.....	17
Headline Numbers .....	11	All Fired Up.....	17
Out of Season Events.....	11	<b>Cinema Screenings</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>Performing Arts</b> .....	<b>12</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b> .....	<b>20</b>
Once Upon a Time .....	12	Welcome to Margaret River .....	20
The Box Show.....	12	Community Groups .....	20
Hope.....	12	School Holiday Activities.....	21
The Barber of Seville .....	12	Touring shows.....	22
Up All Night 20th Anniversary Tour .....	12	AMR Shire Event Support .....	22
Sionnach Rua’s Great Irish Song Book.....	12	Artistic Development Support.....	22
Hiccup.....	13	50th Birthday Celebrations .....	22
Let’s Dance .....	13	Young @ HEART .....	22
She is Strong.....	13	<b>Art Exhibitions</b> .....	<b>23</b>
The Sunshine Club.....	13	Weaving Stories of Boodja .....	23
Once Upon a Time .....	13	Wannang Biridge, Light of the Peppermint Tree .....	23
Australian String Quartet.....	13	David Bromley, New Paintings.....	23
Opera in Margaret River .....	13	Furawāāto (Flower Art).....	23
Shine!.....	14	Memory of a Memory / Shades of Loss.....	23
Decennium The Greatest Hits Tour.....	14	18th Annual Margaret River Art Auction .....	23
Sunday Sundowner at Nala Bardip Mia .....	14	She is Strong.....	23
Sundowners in Cowaramup .....	14	Creating Identity .....	24
Catching Diamonds.....	14	Harvey’s World – A Retrospective.....	24
Sundowner in Augusta.....	14	Wander Out Yonder .....	24
The Forever Tour .....	15	Reflections in Colour .....	24
Lebarde – Resists.....	15	Acquiescence and the Window of Tolerance.....	24
A Midsummer Night’s Dream .....	15	Through Olivia’s Eyes, Margaret River .....	24
Dusa, Fish, Stas and Vi.....	15	Newlyweds’ Dream .....	24
Yarns & Yodels Tour.....	15	Canvas of Feeling: Turning Emotions into Art.....	24
The Other Side of Me .....	15	Visual Stories Art Exhibition & Competition .....	25
Cosi .....	16	Act Belong Commit Ebb+Flow.....	25
Who’s Your Man?.....	16	<b>Additional Support</b> .....	<b>25</b>
Tender is the Night.....	16	Hot Desking .....	25
Humans 2.0.....	16	<b>Venue Hire</b> .....	<b>25</b>
Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow .....	16	<b>Volunteers Report</b> .....	<b>26</b>

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

---

## REPORTING PERIOD JULY 2023 TO JUNE 2024

FY2024 was the first full year of our five-year HEART (Hub of Entertainment Arts and Regional Tourism) Co-Management Agreement with the Shire of Augusta Margaret River. It coincided with our 50th birthday celebrations. Not a bad double!

This year saw our best ever attendance to our Readers & Writers Festival, record membership, more community support and events with positive community and stakeholder feedback. On any measure the team has again delivered an exceptional result.

---

### A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

As the Co-Management Agreement at the HEART is the beginning of a new era for Arts Margaret River, it seems appropriate to take a short walk through our history.

From our early beginnings as a passionate volunteer-only organisation championing the arts we became more focussed with the creation of the Cultural Centre in 1983 – a decade after our first activities. This focal point encouraged a growing maturity, as witnessed by the publishing of our first Annual Report in 2001, the same year cinema became a reality. A year later the Cowie Sundowners started. This spurt of growth must have inspired the Shire, as they tasked us with managing the Cultural Centre, although meaningful financial support was another decade away!

In the interim, our signature Readers & Writers Festival (2009) was born and has continued to thrive.

When the HEART replaced the Cultural Centre in 2019 it was initially managed by the Shire and we found ourselves uncertain about our future. A continued commitment to providing and supporting the arts for the benefit of our community remained undiminished.

After the Shire encountered initial teething problems compounded by COVID-19, we returned to the HEART as co-managers responsible for event programming, front of house and community support in the venue. The Shire is responsible for the building and all technical aspects.

The co-management model for the HEART is working well, although we were saddened by the departure back to Perth of Phil Bebb. Phil had been instrumental in getting the two teams working well together and helping to define roles and responsibilities.

We welcome the arrival of Jon Godden who is continuing to develop the relationship we have with the Shire.

We are proud to now be the custodians of this impressive facility along with the Shire and are working towards achieving its maximum utilisation, for the benefit of all members of our community.

This new era is unfortunately bookmarked by the passing of Anne Shepherdson OA, whose passion, energy and enthusiasm over four decades has been instrumental in the success and longevity of our organisation. Anne gave so much to our community, and her presence is sorely missed.

I also want to give a special thank you to Heather Locke OAM not only for her years of service, but also for her work in compiling a historical book – *Arts connecting Margaret River*. We have copies available for sale for those interested.

---

### 2024 RESULTS

Our audience numbers at the HEART reached 38,648, with the Summer Sundowners at Cowaramup and Augusta adding another 1,550 to this.

We hosted 302 events during the year, with 251 of these being community focussed (83%) and 141 held by community groups (56%).

In 2024 we enjoyed a strong financial result with total revenues breaking the million dollar barrier at \$1,251,685. The record revenues resulted from increased contributions by the Readers & Writers Festival and commercial venue hire fees.

Grant income was marginally lower at \$326,082 compared with \$363,678 in the previous year.

On the back of this we achieved an Operating Surplus of \$59,495, of which \$30,000 is now reserved in our Program Fund and \$19,079 in our Public Fund (now known as the Gift Fund). This leaves a reported Net Surplus of \$10,416.

---

### READERS & WRITERS FESTIVAL

This year's Festival was our biggest and best yet!

Ticket sales were a record \$125,000 with 49 events held across Margaret River, Busselton, Dunsborough and Augusta. There was something for everyone, with 60 authors and presenters.

For aspiring writers there were 12 Writers Workshops, while 88 local artists entered the Visual Stories Arts Competition and Exhibition.

A number of free events – Storytelling Snug, Free poetry readings and exhibitions were widely supported with over 500 attendances.

The Young Readers & Writers Program 2024 saw 16 local and regional schools (including homeschooling networks) involved from Bunbury to Augusta and inland to Nannup. Total session attendance in this program was some 2,900 school children.

---

## STAFF

As our role expands, so too does our group of people. This year we welcomed Jane Kerr to the team as an additional support across all areas.

Our current staff count is 6.7 FTE. The Christmas Party was a much larger affair last year! Our staff consists of:

- General Manager – Michelle Wright
- Artistic Director – Sian Baker
- Community Development Support Manager – Stephanie Kreutzer
- Finance Manager – Trevor Brannan
- Marketing Manager – Christopher Young
- Volunteer & Event Support Manager – Ian Smith
- Project Assistant – Jane Kerr
- Customer Service Officers – Dawn Rybicki & Pam Townshend
- Duty Managers – Mechelle Bernhardt, Sam James, Hilary Metcalfe, Sherie Read, Rachuel Knapinski & Gilly Reid
- Casuals – Michel Bayens & Joshua Yates

---

## STRATEGY

Our Strategic Plan is based around three pillars of activity – as a Presenter of arts events, as Supporter of the arts and as a Creator of content. Over the period from 2021 to 2024 we saw our primary role being as Presenter. The major part of this is our role at the HEART, but also includes our other events.

Our intention over the next three years to 2027 is to increase the focus on our Support role.

Over the last two years we have established a separate Program Fund to provide additional support to build a more vibrant creative arts and cultural hub in the region. This will be used to support artists and cultural initiatives, as well as providing a small amount of seed money for potential new programs of merit. A portion has also been earmarked to underwrite further expansion of our successful Readers & Writers Festival.

Our other activities such as the Cowaramup and Augusta Sundowners and the Readers & Writers Festival include aspects of all three roles – being our own creations, presented by us, and which also support local artists.

---

## VOLUNTEERS

It is astonishing to think of the number of hours our volunteers have given to our community over the last 50 years. In 2024 alone it was 3,173 hours.

The simple truth is that without these selfless people, we would not survive and our town would be much the worse. We currently have over 200 volunteers registered with us.

I wish to thank all volunteers for their tremendous and continued support.

---

## LIFE MEMBERS

In September 2024 we wish to induct two special people as Honorary Life Members – Lloyd Shepherdson and Diana Heaford.

Lloyd has been a constant contributor from the very start – firstly with his mother Dorothy and then with wife Anne. His encouragement and support in many ways has been unwavering.

Diana has been volunteering for Arts Margaret River since 2004 and we celebrated her 20 years of service, parallel to our 50 year celebrations as an organisation.

With her welcoming smile and cheeky sense of humour, she is an inspiration to younger volunteers, audience members and staff alike. Since 2004 she has worked almost 1,700 hours, which is a remarkable achievement for a volunteer.

---

## MEMBERS

We are appreciative of the continued support of you, our members. As of June 30 2024 we had over 400 members. This is a solid improvement over the prior year's 367.

I am pleased to announce that membership fees will remain unchanged in 2025.

---

## BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

We are also fortunate to have a number of individuals who give freely of their time and expertise in helping to guide our organisation forward.

I again thank all our other Board Members – Kerry Mather (Vice President), Clinton Truman (Treasurer), Jeanette Sangmeister (Secretary), Heath Kelly (Vice President to September 2023), Anne Shepherdson, Di Drew and Galatee Underwood for their time, passion and commitment. Our organisation is stronger for their generous contributions and suggestions.

Clinton Truman (Treasurer) relocated to Perth in July 2024 and unfortunately has had to resign. We thank him for his contribution over the last two years.

Heath Kelly agreed to return to the Board in July 2024.

---

## FUNDING BODIES

Without the support of our various funding bodies we simply wouldn't exist. These include the State Government as part of its Regional Events Program (Tourism WA), Regional and Remote Festivals Fund as part of the Regional Arts and Cultural Investment Program (RACIP) and Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, LotteryWest, Australian Government through the Festivals Australia program, Shire of Augusta Margaret River, Regional Arts WA and Rotary Margaret River.

To all of our members, volunteers, staff, Board, funders and sponsors, as well as the Council and staff of the Shire of Augusta Margaret River, I again thank you all for your patronage and positive support.

**David Shelton**, *President*

# TREASURER'S REPORT

---

## REPORTING PERIOD JULY 2023 TO JUNE 2024

---

### OPERATIONAL RESULTS

The Financial Year 2023/24 was the first full year in our role as Co-Manager of the HEART.

The venue was interrupted by works at the Recreation Centre for much of the year but the results for events, cinema, bar/kiosk and venue hire are all up compared to last year (which was also interrupted by works to the Main Theatre at HEART).

Grant funding received and expended in 2023/24 continued at a high level of \$326,082, albeit slightly down on last year reflecting the on-going competition for funding in the arts and culture area.

Operational overheads were \$718,691 this year (an increase of over 40%) largely reflecting the increase in staffing required to service the HEART (we now employ an FTE equivalent of 6.7).

Overall, Arts Margaret River made an operating surplus of \$59,495 for the year. In light of this surplus, the Board of Management has set aside a further \$30,000 to the Program Fund to support our future programming and to help manage future fluctuations in availability of grant funding.

Net current assets at the year-end increased to \$249,047 (reflecting the surplus for the year).

Cash on hand at the end of the period was \$505,861. This includes unexpended grants of \$21,027 already received for events in FY25 and \$13,896 payments to make to venue-hirers for ticketing income received for events not yet held.

### OUTLOOK FOR 2024/25

Our main focus for 2024/25 is maintaining our co-management role at the Margaret River HEART – balancing financial stability with increasing the level and number of community events and support. We have been successful in our application for 3 year funding from Regional Arts WA (RASI – \$50,000 per annum) and DLGSC (RAVS – \$70,000 per annum) which will provide additional medium term financial security for us given our significant commitment to increased operational costs.

Just to note, arrangements for our Public Fund have changed since the ATO took over from the Register of Cultural Organisations to manage DGR (Designated Gift Recipient) entities on 1 January 2024. There is no longer a need for us to manage a completely separate Public Fund for gifts and donations, with the new requirement being to manage a Gift Fund that sits within Arts Margaret River itself. Therefore, next year the balance sheet of Arts Margaret River will include the Gift Fund monies after these changes are approved at the AGM.

Finally, and needless to say, the support from our patrons, membership, volunteers, partners and sponsors in the period of transition to the Margaret River HEART has been exceptional and this will be critical to the continued financial stability of our organisation. Thank you to all concerned. We look forward to your continued support.

**David Shelton**

*Acting Treasurer*

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Income	Year to June 2024	Year to June 2023
Grants	\$326,082	\$363,678
Memberships	\$14,965	\$13,481
Events (including fundraiser event)	\$303,976	\$197,269
Cinema	\$83,697	\$57,648
Bar/Kiosk	\$96,809	\$45,475
Venue Hire	\$164,044	\$28,875
Other (Contracts, fundraising, sponsorships)	\$31,817	\$122,058
Shire Co-Management Fee	\$225,000	\$139,335
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,251,685</b>	<b>\$967,819</b>

### Expenditure

Operational Overhead	\$718,691	\$501,128
Events and HEART activities	\$473,498	\$333,617
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>\$1,192,189</b>	<b>\$834,745</b>
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	<b>\$59,495</b>	<b>\$133,074</b>
Allocation to Program Fund	\$30,000	\$50,000
<b>Net Surplus before transfers to Public/Gift Fund</b>	<b>\$29,495</b>	<b>\$83,074</b>

## ASSETS/LIABILITIES SUMMARY

	30 June 2024	30 June 2023
Non-current Assets	\$6,559	\$8,745
Current Assets	\$542,549	\$554,615
Current Liabilities	-\$220,062	-\$274,729
Less: Program Fund	-\$80,000	-\$50,000
<b>Current Assets net of Liabilities</b>	<b>\$249,047</b>	<b>\$238,631</b>
<b>Public/Gift Fund</b>	<b>\$31,540</b>	<b>\$12,396</b>

# RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN STATEMENT (RAP)

---

## INTRODUCTION

At Arts Margaret River, we acknowledge the importance of reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and commit ourselves to take meaningful action to advance this cause. This Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) outlines our organization's commitment to building respectful relationships, fostering mutual respect, and creating opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Our RAP is based on the core pillars of relationships, respect, and opportunities and reflects our dedication to promoting economic equity and supporting First Nations self-determination.

## AIM

To foster a community of inclusion, creativity, and understanding where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures are celebrated and respected, and where opportunities for collaboration and growth are available to all.

## RAP CORE PILLARS

---

### 1. RELATIONSHIPS

- **Acknowledgment and Welcome:** We will start all organizational events and meetings with an acknowledgment of the traditional custodians of the land and a welcome to country. This will promote respect for the culture and history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- **Cultural Competency Training:** All staff and volunteers will undergo cultural competency training to deepen their understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories.
- **Engagement:** We will actively seek partnerships with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organizations to foster collaborative relationships.

### 2. RESPECT

- **Artistic Expression:** We will create and support opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists to showcase their work through exhibitions, performances, and workshops at our organization.
- **Representation:** We will strive to ensure that our programming and promotional materials represent the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures accurately and respectfully.
- **Cultural Protocols:** We will adhere to cultural protocols and seek permission for the use of Indigenous knowledge, art, and cultural symbols in our projects.

## MEASURABLE OUTCOMES AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- We will track and report our progress on RAP initiatives annually.
- Regular consultations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities will inform our actions.

## CONCLUSION

At Arts Margaret River, we are committed to advancing reconciliation through meaningful and sustainable actions. Our RAP outlines our dedication to building respectful relationships, fostering mutual respect, and creating opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We believe that through these efforts, we can contribute to economic equity and support First Nations self-determination, while celebrating and preserving the rich cultures and histories of Australia's Indigenous peoples.

This RAP is a living document, subject to regular review and improvement as we work collaboratively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities towards a more inclusive and equitable future.

# ACCESS BELONGING INCLUSION DIVERSITY & EQUITY STATEMENT (ABIDE)

---

## INTRODUCTION

At Arts Margaret River we are committed to fostering vibrant and inclusive creative community that celebrates the richness of human experiences. We believe in the power of art to connect people, challenge perspectives, and transform lives. Our commitment to Access, Belonging, Inclusion, Diversity and Equity (ABIDE) is at the heart of everything we do.

## AIM

To foster a community of inclusion, creativity, and understanding where all individuals are celebrated and respected, and where opportunities for collaboration and growth are available to all.

## ABIDE CORE PILLARS

"Access, Belonging, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity (ABIDE) are fundamental principles that guide our organization. We are dedicated to embodying these principles in every aspect of our work.

---

## ACCESS

We are committed to providing equal access to opportunities, resources, and experiences for all individuals. We strive to remove barriers that may hinder anyone from participating fully and reaching their potential.

---

## BELONGING

Our aim is to create a space where everyone feels a deep sense of belonging and acceptance. We foster an environment where diverse voices are not only heard but also embraced, contributing to a stronger sense of community and unity.

---

## INCLUSION

Inclusion is woven into the fabric of our organization. We actively seek out and value the perspectives, talents, and contributions of every member. By fostering an inclusive environment, we harness the power of differences to drive innovation and growth.

---

## DIVERSITY

We celebrate the richness that diversity brings to our organization. We recognize and appreciate the variety of backgrounds, cultures, experiences, and identities that each individual brings. By embracing diversity, we broaden our horizons and enrich our collective understanding.

---

## EQUITY

Equity is the cornerstone of our approach. We acknowledge that historical inequities persist in our society. We are dedicated to addressing these inequities by ensuring fair treatment, representation, and opportunities for all, irrespective of their background.

ABIDE is not just a set of words for us – it's a commitment. We are on a continuous journey to create an environment where access, belonging, inclusion, diversity, and equity thrive. Through ongoing learning, open dialogue, and purposeful actions, we strive to make a positive impact within our organization and in the larger communities we serve."



# MARGARET RIVER READERS & WRITERS FESTIVAL

The Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival (MRRWF or The Festival) is the largest annual literature festival in regional Western Australia and serves as our flagship event. The Festival is dedicated to fostering a love for literature and the storytelling arts within the community by delivering an inspiring and accessible program of free and low-cost events, ensuring inclusivity for all. Each year, The Festival brings together thought-provoking writers, journalists, innovators, and big thinkers from WA, interstate, and internationally, offering a rich cultural experience for attendees.

In 2024, the Festival ran from 17–19 May across multiple locations, including Margaret River, Augusta, Busselton, and Dunsborough. Our festival hubs were based at Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART and Shelter Brewing in Busselton, providing lively, engaging spaces for attendees. This year, we successfully delivered a fully in-person program featuring 49 events, ranging from in-conversation sessions and panel discussions to writers' workshops and networking events. Satellite events including highlight dinners and breakfasts were also held at various venues and local businesses, expanding the festival's reach and community involvement.

This year we placed an increased focus on supporting writers alongside readers by offering a new series of writers' workshops covering diverse topics, genres, and narrative styles. We created the New Narratives Professional Development and Writers Workshop program, supported by funding from Regional Arts WA, which provided professional

development opportunities for new and emerging WA writers to develop a new workshop and present at the Festival. We transformed our Studio theatre into a hub for writers' workshops, hosting eight workshops throughout the weekend—six of which were part of the New Narratives initiative. The intimate setting of our smaller studio space facilitated deeper engagement between authors and participants, fostering a personal, enriching experience.

Additional workshops were hosted in collaboration with libraries in Busselton, Dunsborough, and Augusta, offered free as part of our community engagement program.

We continued to nurture our partnerships with writing organisations and local organisations and businesses, partnering with WritingWA and YA for WA to host three networking events to support new, emerging, and young adult writers. Margaret River Library hosted two free community events, featuring Aboriginal author Alton Walley and Albany-based author Dianne Wolfer—both of which sold out. Voyager Estate returned as our host venue for our Margaret River highlight dinner with world-renowned philosopher and author, professor A.C Grayling (sold out) and Shelter Brewing returned as our Busselton festival hub and host for our highlight dinner with Holly Ringland (sold out) and our new highlight breakfast with William McInnes & Wendy Harmer (sold out). Undalup Association, our Cultural Custodians, provided the official Welcome to Country and guided Wadandi Walks, offering participants the chance to



explore the stories and beautiful landscapes of Margaret River and Busselton and connect with Country.

The Visual Stories Art Exhibition & Competition celebrated storytelling through visual mediums, attracting 88 entries. The launch event and prize ceremony were held on 10 May 2024, with prizes generously supported by REDSEA Gallery (\$1000 for First Prize), the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River (\$500 for Second Prize), and Zebra-Factory (People's Choice Award).

Our Young Readers & Writers Program (YR&W) returned from 13–24 May 2024, featuring five children's authors who visited 16 schools over two weeks. The Storytelling Snug, a popular feature during the festival weekend, allowed children and families to drop in for free storytelling and creative sessions, led by the YR&W authors.

We are incredibly proud of the 59 volunteers from our local community who contributed to the success of this year's Festival. Their collective 501 hours of service represent an in-kind contribution valued at \$20,040 (based on a \$40 per hour estimate).

## HEADLINE NUMBERS

- Total tickets = 8,212 (ticket sales, free event tickets, sponsors tickets)
- Children participated in free activities in the Storytelling Snug/foyer = 150
- Authors and guests attended in person = 60
- Visual Stories artists = 88
- Young Readers & Writers Program = 2888
- Total attendance = 11,398 (excluded patrons/book sales)
- Average of 6.1 tickets per patron (based on 8,212 attendances only)
- Book sales = 1,250

## OUT OF SEASON EVENTS

### WHAT'S FOR DINNER? – JILL GRIFFITHS IN CONVERSATION WITH MATTHEW EVANS

**Date:** September 7

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 118

### IN CONVERSATION WITH PETER DOWDING – SECRET AGENT, UNSUNG HERO: THE VALOUR OF BRUCE DOWDING BOOK LAUNCH

**Date:** February 8

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 62

### IN CONVERSATION WITH BRI LEE – THE WORK BOOK LAUNCH

**Date:** April 18

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 69

### IN CONVERSATION WITH SARAH DI LORENZO – THE GUT REPAIR PLAN BOOK LAUNCH

**Date:** April 22

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 117



## PERFORMING ARTS

---

### ONCE UPON A TIME

**Date:** July 7-9, 14 & 15

**Artists:** Margaret River Theatre Group

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 1147

Evil is about to be banished from Pantoland, thanks to the wedding of Cinderella's daughter and Snow White's son. The wicked queen, Evelyn, sets out to stop the wedding by transporting Princess Lottie and her two assistants, Nick and Nack, to the far reaches of Pantoland.

### THE BOX SHOW

**Date:** August 1

**Artists:** Junkyard Beats

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 218

In the hands of Junkyard Beats, ordinary household items are transformed into extraordinary musical instruments and unwanted junk comes alive in exciting and surprising ways!

### HOPE

**Date:** August 16

**Artists:** Soweto Gospel Choir

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 402

Hope is a concert by 3-time Grammy®-winning *Soweto Gospel Choir*; celebrating songs and anthems from the Freedom movement of Nelson Mandela's South Africa, back to the Civil Rights Movement of Martin Luther King's 1950's America.

### THE BARBER OF SEVILLE

**Date:** August 23

**Artists:** Opera Australia

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 237

*The Barber of Seville* fizzles and pops with lyrical acrobatics and irrepressibly funny characters. Rossini's most famous 'opera buffa' is a musical masterpiece with a storyline that would be equally at home in a Hollywood rom-com.

### UP ALL NIGHT 20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR

**Date:** September 13

**Artists:** The Waifs

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 430

Australia's The Waifs – folk heroes, and fully independent trailblazers, celebrated the 20th Anniversary of their breakthrough album *Up All Night* with a massive tour of Australia, heading to every corner and crevice of this big land!

### SIONNACH RUA'S GREAT IRISH SONG BOOK

**Date:** September 28

**Artists:** Various

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 152

*Sionnach Rua's Great Irish Songbook* is a show like no other. With fiddles, Uilleann Pipes, Bazouki's, Mandolins and Whistles. Playing the greatest songs Ireland has ever produced, performed by virtuoso musicians.



---

## HICCUP

**Date:** October 20

**Artists:** Windmill Theatre Company

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 289

*Hiccup* is a hilarious rocking musical extravaganza about working together, finding friendship and how to, once and for all, stop the hiccups.

---

## LET'S DANCE

**Date:** November 5

**Artists:** Tutu Dance Company

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 219

Back for their third year, the region's leading dance school Tutu Dance Company presented their Tiny Dancer showcase 'Let's Dance!'

---

## SHE IS STRONG

**Date:** November 9 & 11

**Artists:** Natural Wings Productions

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 89

*She is Strong* is an intimate show which welcomes you into the hidden world of circus women.

---

## THE SUNSHINE CLUB

**Date:** November 17

**Artists:** HIT Productions

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 95

This energetic and engaging musical play had a variety of music styles, with 28 songs composed by the esteemed John Rodgers.

---

## ONCE UPON A TIME

**Date:** November 25

**Artists:** Blackwood Dance Company

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 514

Local students performed their years hard work, taking the audiences through a fantastic fairy tale story to get the princesses crown back!

---

## AUSTRALIAN STRING QUARTET

**Date:** November 27

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 182

The Australian String Quartet (ASQ) for an hour of music during a special Young@HEART session.

---

## OPERA IN MARGARET RIVER

**Date:** December 1

**Artists:** West Australian Opera

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 242

Favourite hits re-imagined and opera classics were performed in a concert featuring a cast of extraordinary West Australian singers.





---

## SHINE!

**Date:** December 9

**Artists:** Tutu Dance Company

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 641

Two concerts showcasing different dancers and routines, with a total of 200 students gracing the stage.

---

## DECENNIUM THE GREATEST HITS TOUR

**Date:** January 19

**Artists:** Cosentino

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 420

Presented by Premier Artists, Australia's world-renowned entertainer and International Magician of the Year, Cosentino, returned to perform his brand new, 90 minute live show 'Decennium the Greatest Hits Tour'.

---

## SUNDAY SUNDOWNER AT NALA BARDIP MIA

**Dates:** January 28

**Artists:** Nina Suriya, Emjay Angeni, Tilly Kay & Sam Liddon et al

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 500

The Sundowners support local musicians and enable Arts Margaret River to give back to our community, and for the community to be exposed to differing music styles.

---

## SUNDOWNERS IN COWARAMUP

**Dates:** February 11, 18 & 25

**Artists:** Max Allan, Doxy, Shirazz, Chief Monkey, Big Al & The Wolf Pack, Dave Kent and The Cowtown Ramblers

**Venue:** Pioneer Park, Cowaramup

**Attendance:** 2000

The Sundowners support local musicians and enable Arts Margaret River to give back to our community, and for the community to be exposed to differing music styles.

---

## CATCHING DIAMONDS

**Dates:** March 1

**Artists:** Kate Miller-Heidke

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 380

Kate Miller-Heidke is an award-winning singer-songwriter who traverses the worlds of folk, pop, opera and musical theatre. She has performed on stages as varied as the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Coachella, the New York Metropolitan Opera, the Eurovision Song Contest, the Sydney Opera House, and the Roebuck Bay Hotel, Broome.

---

## SUNDOWNER IN AUGUSTA

**Dates:** March 3

**Artists:** Brandie & Wise, Si & B

**Venue:** Augusta Centennial Hall

**Attendance:** 250

The Sundowners support local musicians and enable Arts Margaret River to give back to our community, and for the community to be exposed to differing music styles. This event was moved from the Augusta Hotel to the Centennial Hall on short notice due to weather concerns.



---

## THE FOREVER TOUR

**Dates:** March 23

**Artists:** Diesel

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 223

One of Australia's greatest success stories, the American-born Diesel, aka Mark Lizotte, has spent three decades weaving an effortlessly magic musical touch into his rock and blues-fuelled sounds, both as part of the band Johnny Diesel & The Injectors, and more recently as a solo artist.

---

## LEBARDE – RESISTS

**Dates:** March 30

**Artists:** Bruno Michel et al

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 58

BrunurB Lebarde is a storyteller, poet, musician, clown and philosopher, reviewing bard's history, their place within civilizations and diverse ethnical groups.

---

## A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

**Dates:** April 13

**Artists:** Bell Shakespeare

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 387

Shakespeare's classic comedy, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, was reawakened in this breathless production brimming with magic, mirth and mayhem.

---

## DUSA, FISH, STAS AND VI

**Dates:** April 19, 20, 26 & 27

**Artists:** Margaret River Theatre Group

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 320

Four determinedly "liberated" – and very different – women ricocheted around a tiny shared flat, while trying to pull together the shattered strands of their lives.

---

## YARNS & YODELS TOUR

**Dates:** April 24

**Artists:** Brad Cox

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 145

Inspired by the 50 or so sold-out solo shows Brad Cox performed during lockdown, he took to the theatre stage to perform beloved Coxy favourites, both new and old, and hopefully got a few laughs in the process.

---

## THE OTHER SIDE OF ME

**Dates:** April 27

**Artists:** NT Dance

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 108

Choreographed by Gary Lang, this international, cross-cultural collaboration with Northumbria University (UK) communicated a story of the Stolen Generations' trauma. With care and compassion, it posed questions about relationships between country of origin, identity, adoption, the criminal justice system and psychological health.

---

## COSI

**Dates:** April 30, May 1 & 2

**Artists:** Margaret River Senior High School Drama Program

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 408

It is 1971 and while the anti-Vietnam War protests take place in the Melbourne streets Lewis, a 21-year-old university student, is inside an old community hall. He is directing an Italian opera with a cast of patients from a mental health facility – who can't sing and can't speak Italian! Who says it's madness? *Cosi* is a play about love, connection and courage.

---

## WHO'S YOUR MAN?

**Dates:** May 3

**Artists:** Jimeoin

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 382

Ever wondered why dogs get so excited around 6pm? Or what the point of the little toe is? Or what to do when you forget someone's name?

---

## TENDER IS THE NIGHT

**Dates:** May 4

**Artists:** Abbe May & Dan Howls

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 82

An incredible event that paired WA songwriters with WA composers for a night of mesmerising music presented in collaboration with the City of Melville and the Shire of Augusta Margaret River.

---

## HUMANS 2.0

**Dates:** May 11

**Artists:** Circa

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 314

Ten bodies appear in a flash of light. They move in harmony for a fleeting moment and then descend into a sinuous trance. Towers grow and decay, bodies leap and are caught, as physical limits are pushed to their extreme. Can we ever find a perfect balance or is adapting to constant change the only way forward?

---

## MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL ROADSHOW

**Dates:** May 24

**Artists:** Various

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 400

Showcasing the finest talents from the 2024 Melbourne International Comedy Festival, this showcase delivered a dose of laughter right to your doorstep!

---

## REVISIONS

**Dates:** June 1

**Artists:** Josh Pyke

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 129

After a hugely successful *Revisions Tour* in November/December 2023, Josh Pyke announced additional dates, bringing this fantastic show to a few more places for the very last time.



---

## SOUL KITCHEN STUDIO SESSIONS

**Dates:** June 7

**Artists:** Tilly Kay

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 69

A choir of locals performing under the leadership of Tilly Kay and Michelle Spriggs.

---

## A TASTE OF IRELAND

**Dates:** June 10

**Artists:** Various

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 215

*A Taste of Ireland* merges cultural traditions, modern flair, and craic galore to deliver a performance that has brought the house down night after night.

---

## BARRACKING FOR THE UMPIRE

**Dates:** June 15

**Artists:** Black Swan State Theatre Company

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 292

What are we willing to sacrifice for the great game? Following a standout Perth season in 2022, *Barracking for the Umpire* embarked on a regional tour in Western Australia, and Margaret River was fortunate to be included on the tour.

---

## MAKE MUSIC DAY

**Dates:** June 21

**Artists:** South Regional TAFE Margaret River

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 35

To celebrate *Make Music Day 2024* South Regional TAFE Margaret River and Arts Margaret River opened the main theatre of the HEART for a day of technical and musical discovery.

---

## ALL FIRED UP

**Dates:** June 30

**Artists:** R and R Productions

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

**Attendance:** 145

Take two regional creatives and best mates in Rachel Terry and Roz Pappalardo, inspiration from a series of rocking female 80's musicians, a few 'writing trips' to Port Douglas, and an opportunity to premier the work at iconic city venue, Brisbane Powerhouse, as the show's 'out of town try-out', and what do you get?





## CINEMA SCREENINGS

Arts Margaret River's Cinema Program continues to thrive, with 63 screenings throughout the year attracting an impressive 7,854 patrons. Our cinema programming has remained diverse and engaging, offering a broad selection of films to cater to all tastes, while introducing new initiatives to further enhance our audience's experience.

We proudly hosted the inaugural *International Film Showcase* in January, which was a resounding success, attracting over 300 attendees across four screenings. The event featured films from Sudan, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and France, providing a unique opportunity to bring global cinema to our local audience. Given its success, we look forward to revisiting this showcase in 2024/25 and expanding its offerings even further.

School Holiday Cinema remains a staple of our programming, particularly among families. Across 16 daytime screenings held throughout the year, we welcomed 2,137 people. These family-friendly events have become a reliable drawcard, offering entertainment for children and parents alike.

In a standout event, our showing of *Barbie* drew over 1,000 attendees across four screenings, including a special *Mums & Bubs* daytime session. This beloved film brought a vibrant energy to our cinema (the HEART has never seen so much pink!) and was the most attended film of the year.

The reintroduction of *Cheap Tuesday* screenings in early 2023 has continued to be a success. Throughout the year, we held 11 screenings, including 5 documentaries, which attracted 841 patrons. Popular movies included *Wicked Little Letters* starring Olivia Colman, *The Trust Fall* (a Julian Assange documentary), and *The Last Daughter*, the powerful story of an Indigenous woman's journey to uncover the truth about her past and reconcile the two sides of her family. The *Cheap Tuesday* initiative remains a popular way to make cinema more accessible, providing an affordable mid-week option for our community.



The Margaret River Pro continues to be a key event for the region, and our special screenings aligned with the event drew more than 700 people. The two films shown this year were *Trilogy: New Wave* and *The Road to Patagonia*. Arts Margaret River and the HEART teams consistently deliver a world-class event, providing an exceptional cultural complement to the surf competition.

The 2023/24 Cinema Program has been a tremendous success, with strong attendance and a diverse lineup of screenings that have catered to all sectors of the community. From blockbuster hits to insightful documentaries, as well as the launch of new initiatives like the International Film Showcase, our program continues to grow in scope and popularity. We look forward to building on this success in the coming year, bringing more cinematic experiences to the Margaret River region and further enhancing our community's engagement with film.

Arts Margaret River hosts Cinema Fundraising opportunities for community groups with a large proportion of ticket sales donated to the group.

---

### NAIDOC WEEK

- *Sweet As*

---

### MARGARET RIVER WELCOME GROUP

- *Harold Fry*

---

### JUST HOME

- *Asteroid City*

---

### MARGARET RIVER THEATRE GROUP

- *Theatre Camp*

---

### MARGARET RIVER HOCKEY CLUB

- *From Sky to Sea*

---

### MARGARET RIVER BUSSELTON TOURISM ASSOCIATION

- *Night Calling*

---

### RELAY FOR LIFE

- *If*

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A large number of community focussed events were held during the year to cater for all ages and interests, including the Young@Heart free concerts every Monday morning in the foyer. These concerts have grown in popularity with 3,538 people attending the 40 concerts which ranged from classical music, choirs, contemporary bands through to poetry readings.

The free Sunday Sundowner Concert series was expanded to include three concerts in Cowaramup, one concert in the soundshell at Nala Bardip Mia and one concert in Augusta.

Arts Margaret River continued to support the Recreation Centre and Kids Club during the year due to the Recreation Centre redevelopment. This included use of the Studio Theatre, Commercial Kitchen and Studio toilets. Studio Theatre use by Kids Club during the school holidays restricted any other community groups utilizing this space.

## WELCOME TO MARGARET RIVER

Arts Margaret River hosted our first morning tea event in February. This free event was an opportunity for newcomers to town to meet in a friendly and welcoming environment to find out more about our town and the various groups and activities that are available. 15 people attended and we will run two to three of these events every year.

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

### MARGARET RIVER THEATRE GROUP

- Support for their annual Pantomime and Theatre show including providing space for auditions, rehearsals and performances.

### CONCRETE CLUB

- Rollerskating classes & events

### BEC SCHOFIELD

- Voice & Drama after school workshops

### MARGARET RIVER PERFORMANCE & DANCE

- After school classes

### TILLY KAY

- Soul Kitchen Choir workshop & event

### UKE CLUB

- Weekly rehearsals in the soundshell

### MARGARET RIVER COMMUNITY CENTRE

- Staying in Place talks

### TECHNOLOGY FOR AGEING & DISABILITY WA

- Showcase

### MARGARET RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

- Annual Awards



---

## PRIDE MONTH

- Drag make up workshop

---

## DANCE SCHOOLS

- Blackwood rehearsals & concerts
- Tutu rehearsals & concerts

---

## MARGARET RIVER LIONS

- Fashion Parade fundraiser

---

## MINDFUL MARGARET RIVER

- Gatekeeper training

---

## SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE MARGARET RIVER

- Student development, Make Music day

---

## HEATHER LOCKE OAM

- *Arts connecting Margaret River* book launch

---

## MARGI PRIDE INC

- Dance Workshop

---

## NATURE CONSERVATION MARGARET RIVER

- Sundowner Series & Our Patch Education Program presentation

---

## MARGARET RIVER SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

- Showcase
- *Così* play & rehearsals

---

## ARTISTS IN CONVERSATION

- South West Arts Seminars

---

## BAREFACED STORIES

- Workshops

---

## CAREER CONVERSATIONS

- Pathways and opportunities. Free info evening

---

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

---

## INTERGENERATIONAL ART WORKSHOPS

- Creative workshops for all ages

---

## ANDREA FRANCIS MANNERS

- Singing workshops

---

## EMILY GREEN

- Drama workshop

---

## FI WILKIE

- Art workshops

---

## WOODY

- Kids bushdance





---

## TOURING SHOWS

---

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- *Barber of Seville*
- *She is Strong* workshops
- *Hiccup* school workshop
- WA Opera workshops
- Bell Shakespeare school workshops
- *The Other Side of Me* school workshops
- *Humans 2.0* Circus schools cheap tix & tour
- *Barracking for the Umpire* school workshop
- *All Fired Up* on-line dance workshop

---

### AMR SHIRE EVENT SUPPORT

- Thank a Volunteer celebration
- Harmony Day Celebrations and movie screenings
- Shire staff training
- Shire Delegate lunch & tour

---

## ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

- *She is Strong*
- *Lebarde* musical show
- *The Other Side of Me* – two weeks in-house rehearsals & school workshops

---

### NALA BOODJA ECO CLAN CELEBRATION

Whole of venue workshops/activities & live music in the soundshell.

---

### 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

In July 2024 Arts Margaret River celebrated our 50th birthday. As part of the celebrations, four free community workshops were held to make cushions from the original stage curtains. These cushions were then included in a exhibition in July.

---

### YOUNG @ HEART

Arts Margaret River continues to present the Young @ HEART events on Monday mornings in the foyer. This initiative was developed by the Margaret River HEART to safely encourage participation in the arts among older residents (over 60s) during the initial stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to high interest, the free performances have since been opened to people of all ages. Nonetheless, the senior demographic still makes up the majority of the audience.

Every Monday (excluding Public Holidays) between 10am and 11am a variety of performances from classical music, choirs, poetry readings to live bands entertain an every growing audience. Audience age varies depending on the performance and between 60 to 120 people attend. These performances are organised by Ross Goulden on a voluntary basis with support from Arts Margaret River and HEART staff.



## ART EXHIBITIONS

### WEAVING STORIES OF BOODJA

**Artists:** Various

**Dates:** June 2-August 3

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

This colourful exhibition of works was created by the children and families of the Margaret River region, in their exploration of their connection to our natural environment.

### WANNANG BIRIDGE, LIGHT OF THE PEPPERMINT TREE

**Artists:** Various

**Dates:** August 18-September 3

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Multiple collaborations of photo artist Martine Perret with Elder Vivian Brockman Webb, Mitchella Hutchins, Mabenan Hutchins and Majinda Hutchins with music composer and video/sound artist Roly Skender.

### DAVID BROMLEY, NEW PAINTINGS

**Artists:** David Bromley

**Dates:** August 29-September 3

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Gullotti Galleries presented an exhibition of new paintings by highly sought-after Australian artist David Bromley.

### FURAWĀĀTO (FLOWER ART)

**Artists:** Natalie Briney

**Dates:** September 9-23

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Inspired by the Japanese ancient art form 'Oshibana' where pressed flowers and other botanical materials are used to create an entire picture to make beautiful art.

### MEMORY OF A MEMORY / SHADES OF LOSS

**Artists:** Elisa Marques-Young

**Dates:** September 28-October 10

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Works about the pain of things lost forever, communicating the feeling of a bitter-sweet melancholy, regret and yearning for something or someone that once was there but isn't any more.

### 18TH ANNUAL MARGARET RIVER ART AUCTION

**Artists:** Various

**Dates:** November 4

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Celebrating 18 years of amazing artists the 18th Annual Margaret River Art Auction showcased diverse works from the region's most prominent artists and emerging local artists.

### SHE IS STRONG

**Artists:** Various

**Dates:** November 11

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Through circus, photography, and storytelling, three artists share their strength and vulnerability as they delve into motherhood, injuries, and mental struggles, all while supporting one another (sometimes very literally).

---

## CREATING IDENTITY

**Artists:** MRSHS Students

**Dates:** November 8-23

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

The exhibition showcases Fine Art, Photography and Fine Woodwork, all produced by talented year 10, 11 and 12 students at Margaret River Senior High School.

---

## HARVEY'S WORLD – A RETROSPECTIVE

**Artists:** Harvey Wachtel

**Dates:** January 5-29

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Harvey Wachtel was a serious artist with a whimsical touch. His bright colours, witty and insightful writings and children's poetry was the lens through which he saw the world.

---

## WANDER OUT YONDER

**Artists:** Fi Wilkie

**Dates:** January 8-31

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Living in Margaret River in the south west of WA for over 30 years, its landscape, flora and fauna and the stories that exist within it inspire Fi's work daily.

---

## REFLECTIONS IN COLOUR

**Artists:** Lynn Fenty & Barbara Allan

**Dates:** February 2-23

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Discover the essence of life and passion through the artistic journey of Lynn Fenty and Barbara Allan.

---

---

## ACQUIESCENCE AND THE WINDOW OF TOLERANCE

**Artists:** Marelize Landman

**Dates:** February 12–March 15

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

This collection told the story of a pass the parcel process, a relay between victim, perpetrator, predator, and prey.

---

## THROUGH OLIVIA'S EYES, MARGARET RIVER

**Artists:** Olivia Lancaster

**Dates:** February 28-March 27

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Inspiration for Olivia's artwork came from Margaret River's seascapes, forest, native birds, wild flowers and people.

---

## NEWLYWEDS' DREAM

**Artists:** Jody and Benjamin Loaring

**Dates:** April 3-23

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

The exhibition comprised original artworks created in North Bay Kударup and Broome from 2004 to 2023.

---

## CANVAS OF FEELING: TURNING EMOTIONS INTO ART

**Artists:** Marion Cardamone

**Dates:** April 5-May 9

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Embark on a vibrant odyssey through the world of emotions and embodiment.

---



## VISUAL STORIES ART EXHIBITION & COMPETITION

**Artists:** Various

**Dates:** May 1-27

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

Artists were invited to submit works that communicated and showcased the power of storytelling and the unique sense of place that is Wadandi Boodja through their chosen medium.

## ACT BELONG COMMIT EBB+FLOW

**Artists:** Various

**Dates:** June 4-July 4

**Venue:** Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

In 2021 and 2022 an artist from each region of Western Australia explored the theme of Ebb+Flow through a residency in WA's Mid West. These residencies culminated in the Ebb+Flow exhibition celebrating a collection of works collaboratively created by the artists and the community.

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

### HOT DESKING

- Office space facilitated for Creative Corner.

## VENUE HIRE

- A-List Entertainment
- Andrea Frances Manners
- Bec Schofield
- Blackwood Dance Company
- CinefestOZ
- Concrete Club
- Craft Music & One Louder
- Creative Australia
- Creative Corner
- Department of Education
- Elodies Piano School
- Emily Green
- Fi Wilkie
- Forest O'Connor Greens
- Josh Pyke
- Margaret River Community Centre
- Margaret River Lions
- Margaret River Performance & Dance
- Margaret River Senior High School
- Margaret River Theatre Group
- Margaret River Wine Association
- Margi Pride Inc
- Mindful Margaret River
- Mirror Music Group
- Margaret River Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Nature Conservation Margaret River
- Pace Entertainment
- Premier Artists
- Provincial Surgeons of Australia
- R and R Productions
- Regen Conference
- St Thomas More Catholic Primary School
- The Voice Community Forum
- Tilly Kay
- Uke Club
- Technology for Ageing & Disability WA
- The Waifs
- Tutu Dance Company
- South Regional TAFE Margaret River
- South West Development Commission
- West Australian Guitar Festival



# VOLUNTEERS REPORT

This year, our vibrant community of 129 active volunteers contributed an extraordinary 3,173 hours of service to Arts Margaret River. Their dedication, enthusiasm, and generosity have been instrumental in bringing our events and programs to life, and we couldn't be more grateful.

We welcomed 53 new volunteers into our fold, with 24 already stepping into their roles to help us continue our mission. While we said goodbye to 7 volunteers who moved on, and removed 4 who didn't start within a year of signing up, we are continually inspired by the commitment of those who have stayed and thrived. Notably, 22 volunteers provided over 50 hours of service, with 2 of these exceptional individuals contributing more than 100 hours. Their contributions are the backbone of our organisation.

Our volunteers not only give their time and energy, but they also come together to celebrate their achievements. This year, our Volunteer Christmas Party was a highlight, with 46 attendees enjoying a fantastic Bingo session. We also held a special Thank You event for our Readers & Writers Festival volunteers, where 33 attendees gathered for a quiz that was every bit as fun as it was challenging!

Looking ahead, we're excited to enhance our volunteer program with more regular appreciation events, aiming for quarterly gatherings like movie nights, barbecues, and social get-togethers. Additionally, we conducted five refresher training sessions this year and plan to continue these more regularly in 2024/25 to ensure our volunteers are well-supported and confident in their roles.

As we reflect on the past year, it's clear that our volunteers are the heart and soul of Arts Margaret River. Their contributions not only make our events possible but also foster a strong, supportive community that we're proud to be a part of. Thank you to each and every one of our volunteers—you make all the difference.







## CONTACT

08 9780 5294

[info@artsmargaretriver.com](mailto:info@artsmargaretriver.com)

Nala Bardip Mia – Margaret River HEART

47 Wallcliffe Road, Margaret River WA 6285

[www.artsmargaretriver.com](http://www.artsmargaretriver.com)

