

# NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024

**“CREATIVITY IS CONTAGIOUS, PASS IT ON.”**

**Albert Einstein**

Welcome to our first newsletter, where creativity knows no bounds! We are dedicated to celebrating and showcasing the incredible diversity of artistic expression within our Gippsland community. Join us as we highlight local events, feature inspiring individuals, and cultivate an inclusive environment that values every voice in the vibrant tapestry of the creative arts.

## FEATURED ARTISTS

We are excited to showcase local talent by featuring artists from our community! We invite you to participate and share your work, whether it be visual art, craft, poetry, or any other form of creative expression. This is a wonderful opportunity to highlight your unique perspective and connect with fellow creators.

Please submit your pieces for consideration, and let's celebrate the richness of our local arts scene together!

To start the ball rolling we will take a look at ourselves here at Gippsland Creative, Alvina Bishop-Edwards and Valerie Hibberd. Check out our website too to see our work: [www.GippsCreative.com.au](http://www.GippsCreative.com.au)

## Valerie Hibberd



My creative journey is a familiar one to many. At high school I studied art and advanced needlework aiming for a career in fashion design, but circumstances impeded this. I became a teacher, had various jobs, children and moved from Coventry in England to Australia with my family in 1985. I always dabbled in all sorts of crafts, the urge to create being a part of who I am but was unable to follow a formal career in the arts. Eventually, I made time and space to learn to paint and draw, seeking out tuition from a local artist, Libby Witchell, and began painting in earnest. A painting and drawing course at ArcYinnar run by Alvina inspired me to paint more and more, to experiment and explore many different types of media.

Inspiration for me comes from the interplay between the environment and the issues of social inequalities and societal expectations. Our environment is fragile, becoming more so each day and I seek to capture the beauty of the environment and the injustices that mar society.

I hope to inspire others who have lost touch with their artistic or creative side as life takes over to have a go, no matter your age it is so rewarding.

# Alvina Bishop - Edwards



Since graduating from art school in 1984 I have worked as a practicing artist and art teacher both privately and in the public education system, regularly participating in group and solo exhibitions and producing works for commission.

My artistic practice directly responds to my surrounding environment, and I use my everyday experiences as a starting point for conceptual inspiration. Often these are framed instances that would go unnoticed in their original context, the ordinary and familiar, yet potentially extraordinary in the people and events that make up my worlds.

My work aims to highlight the interplay between 'man' and 'environment' in both the global sense and from a more individual point of view, while also conveying glimpses of personal experience and regard.

Contemplation of issues critical to existence and mortality, colour my perspective.

Through the use of imagery, featuring elements derived from natural phenomena and the human form, I endeavour to create a tangible connection between these two entities by weaving an allegory which conveys their interwoven history and destiny.

I aspire to convey the fragility and complexity of psyche, to capture the essence of an existence and to evoke the viewer to feel as if they are present witnessing a private moment, hidden thoughts, situation or condition.

My creative process employs a variety of mediums, most often acrylic and mixed media paintings, which feature rich colours and textures to tell the stories.

## TIPS FOR BEGINNERS: FINDING YOUR ARTISTIC VOICE

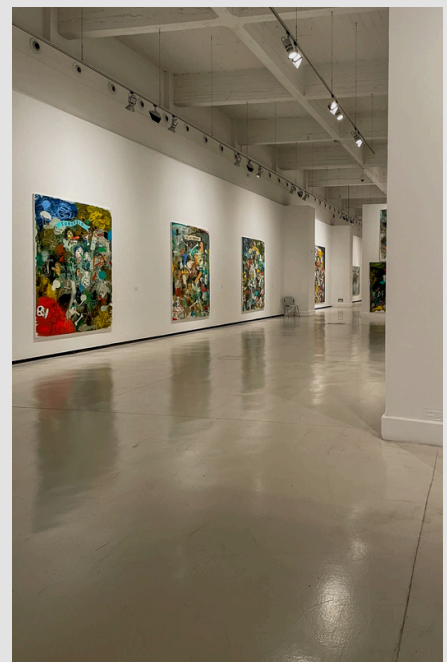
**Experiment Freely:** Don't be afraid to try new mediums—paint, charcoal, digital art! Every experience is a step towards finding your style.

**Set Small Goals:** Focus on creating one piece a week. This helps build confidence and keeps your creative juices flowing.

**Seek Feedback:** Share your work with friends, online communities or with us at GippslandCreative. Constructive criticism can help you grow.

**Stay Inspired:** Follow artists on social media, visit galleries, or join local art groups to keep your passion alive.

**Reflect:** Take a moment to look back at your past creations. What did you learn?



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Are there any upcoming artistic or creative events that you would like to see here? We would also like to promote any training or courses that are available in Gippsland. We aim to publish this newsletter bi-monthly - the next being January 2025 and would love to be able to publicise artistic and creative events here. Please email us if you would like to see your event here.

### **CONNECT & COLLABORATE**

We want to hear from you! What challenges do you face as a beginner artist? What topics would you like us to cover in future newsletters? Your feedback is invaluable - please email us with your ideas: [GippsCreative@gmail.com](mailto:GippsCreative@gmail.com)



**Wishing you all a happy and CREATIVE  
Christmas and an exciting 2025!**

*Thank you for being part of our community! Remember, creativity is about exploration and connection. Keep creating, keep sharing, and let's inspire one another.*

If you do not wish to receive our newsletter please email us: [GippsCreative@gmail.com](mailto:GippsCreative@gmail.com)

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