



PEMBERTON ARTS GROUP INC

Pemberton Community Organisation of the Year 2016.

Established 2004.

Chairperson's Report AGM November 9, 2023

In my report for the 2021-22 AGM, I mentioned the challenges we faced. While some issues have resolved, it appears inevitable that there will be new ones emerging to challenge us.

PAG is now operating from the new Community Arts building – and what a pleasure that is!! The light and space make the studio so inviting and those who are already using it are enjoying the experience. Before continuing, I want to particularly thank Gaye Van Hazendonk who, with the support of the CRC staff, excelled expectations in taking on the colocation Lotterywest grant and who is still dealing with it.

Delays of one sort or another have made it impractical for PAG to forge ahead with workshops and ramping up the studio usage at this stage of the year. The large tv screen has yet to be installed and we are gradually sorting, labelling and storing equipment and materials to set up an efficient workplace. Jill has diligently outlined a fee structure, based on Shire recommended charges, for users of the studio. There is much to look forward to, especially once the kiln is finally installed, approved and ready for use. Several artists have already offered their services to present a variety of workshops and I expect this will be one of PAG's aims in 2024.

Signage, based on Artscape designs by Joanna Box, is now evident at the Hub. At any time soon plinths will be completed in the precinct, to accommodate the sculptures acquired jointly by the Shire of Manjimup and PAG. We now have a number of donated and acquired (special thanks to the Ketelsens) artworks for the Pemberton town collection.

Sincere thanks to the PAG committee - an amazing team – and to our volunteers, sponsors and contributing artists. All of your efforts are too many to mention individually, but are very much appreciated!! The generous support of our volunteers and sponsors continues to amaze me. We will miss our dear past member and friend Brian Evill who willingly volunteered his time to paint plinths and help at exhibition opening events.

I am hopeful that all stakeholders will soon be operating from the hub and that PAG can work collaboratively with them – in particular the CRC – to create a vibrant and inviting town precinct. I believe that it is vital for PAG to engage the community and recruit across all ages to ensure our survival and success in the future. I am keen to see a writing group, children's singing sessions and Sunday Cr-afternoon sessions and welcome new ideas, constructive feedback with suggestions of how PAG can develop, collaborate, create opportunities and respond to the Pemberton community. That means YOU.

Anna Czerkasow

Chair/Coordinator

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