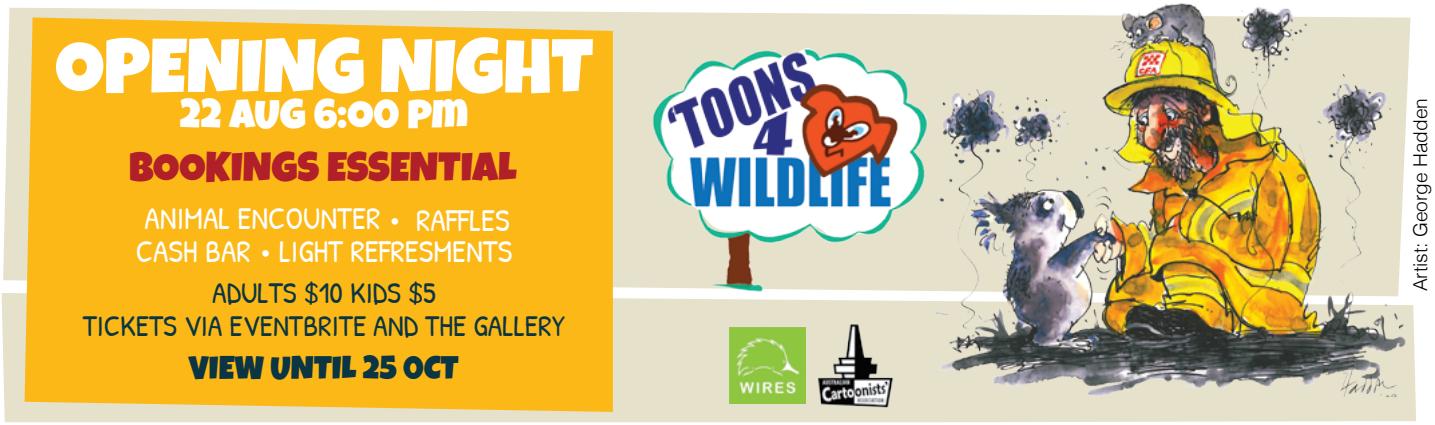
National Cartoon Gallery @ The Bunker, Coffs Harbour

THE UNDERGROUND

THE NATIONAL CARTOON GALLERY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2020



TOONS 4 WILDLIFE After the devastating fires earlier in the year, Mark from TIPPETTURES rallied our Aussie cartoonists' enthusiasm to create the ***Toons 4 Wildlife*** fundraising exhibition in aid of WIRES. The cartoonists response was heartwarming and made for a fantastic collection of over 90 works by some of Australia's best. The National Cartoon Gallery is proud to have been invited as part of this great initiative to display the entries in the gallery whilst they are auctioned online and shipped off to their new homes. Complementing the ***Toons 4 Wildlife*** works will be a collection of Aussie Wildlife cartoons from the gallery's impressive collection.

Opening night is Saturday 22nd August from 6:00pm with a bunch of exciting special guests attending! Adam from Reptile World, will have a couple of Aussie creatures in tow and our opening address will be delivered by the Resilience NSW Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons! Shane continues to inspire and support all affected during this crisi and it is an absolute privilege to have such an honourable man at this event. But... you will have to come along to find out what other suprises we have up our sleeves. View the works, mingle and have a drink. Due to social distancing our numbers are limited to 50 guests. BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL. Please reserve your attendance by purchasing your tickets online via our website or at the gallery. Adults $10 Under 16 $5 - includes a FREE animal encounter! Light refreshments provided and a cash bar available. The exhibition will be on display 22 Aug till 25 Oct. To donate a cartoon or funds to this cause, find the link to more information on our web site.

DOIN' IT WITH THE KIDS We came back from lock down slowly and quietly with new restrictions and routines like everyone else but saw the limitations as a good opportunity to say thankyou to our volunteers by way of a reunion for opening night. It was so nice to have most of our great little group all at the one event! You can catch this colourful, fun, lighthearted look at kids, parenting and aging on the walls until 16 August. Now open 5 days a week. So bring the kids down and share the laughs around.

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MARG'S MESSAGE Welcome back to an ever changing world! I trust that all our loyal supporters have come through the past months with good health and that life for you in the new Covid-19 world is looking ok.

The gallery is at last able to open its doors, even if we are currently keeping that to five days to allow us to regroup with volunteers who are unable to return for now. The walls are full of fun and laughter material once again, so we'd love to see you here Wed-Sun 10-4pm. Please check our website though for updates as the new building progresses quickly and some days it's not possible to access the site.

We were sad to shut the gallery in the midst of the fabulous Captain Fantastic Exhibition – Elton John is certainly a popular character. We did manage to create a short video of the exhibition for those who missed it and this is still available on our website.

It is indeed exciting to see the new gallery take shape and to realise this project is actually going to happen! It's taken almost three years since the original idea was floated and there has been a great deal of work in the background by many people to get us to this stage. If you haven't driven by lately, it's worth it to see what will be a standout attraction for Coffs Harbour by the end of this year.

Whilst driving by, drop in to see our latest exhibition, Doin' it with the kids. There's plenty on the walls for young and old and it's great to again hear chuckles as visitors wander through the gallery. On until 16 August it will be followed by the fundraiser Toons 4 Wildlife commencing on 22nd August and running till 25 October. This will be followed by the ever popular Marnie Yeates opening on 31 October and finally the opening of the New Gallery accompanied by the 2020 Rotary Cartoon Awards on 28 November. So there's plenty happening for the rest of this year and of course, next year we will be running two galleries with surprises to come as new exhibitions are planned.

We really look forward to the end result of the changes taking place and hope to see you over the coming months.

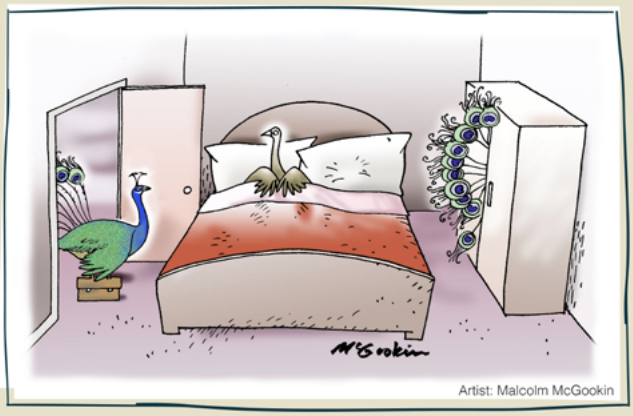
- Margaret

FEATURED ARTIST Here at the gallery our motivation is to preserve the history of Australian cartooning for generations to come. In doing so we aim to give our cartoonists a platform where they can be recognised for their incredible talent and contribution to our culture and how we tell the Australian story - our way, with an Aussie, Larrikin approach. We are always seeking new ways to keep people engaged and better support our cartoonists. Our latest idea we have on the boil is to have a featured artist blog periodically on our socials and webpage.

We are asking any cartoon artists wanting to be involved to contact us. There are no boundaries to how this can be presented, photos, videos, tutorials, text… your story, your way. We are also in need of a catchy name… and keen to hear any additional ideas. To get involved, contact Shelley at office@nationalcartoongallery.com.au

CARTOON OF THE WEEK we are in the early stages of contacting clubs, schools and magazines to jump on board our cartoon of the week… the idea is to have a regular spot in publications such as newsletters to bring a smile to every face, brighten up the News and remind people we are here. If you have a group that might be interested in receiving our cartoon of the week for your publication contact Shelley at office@nationalcartoongallery.com.au

NEED A NEW HOBBY?



Artist: Malcolm McGookin

WHY NOT VOLUNTEER AT THE BUNKER?

TO FIND OUT MORE DROP IN OR GIVE US A CALL

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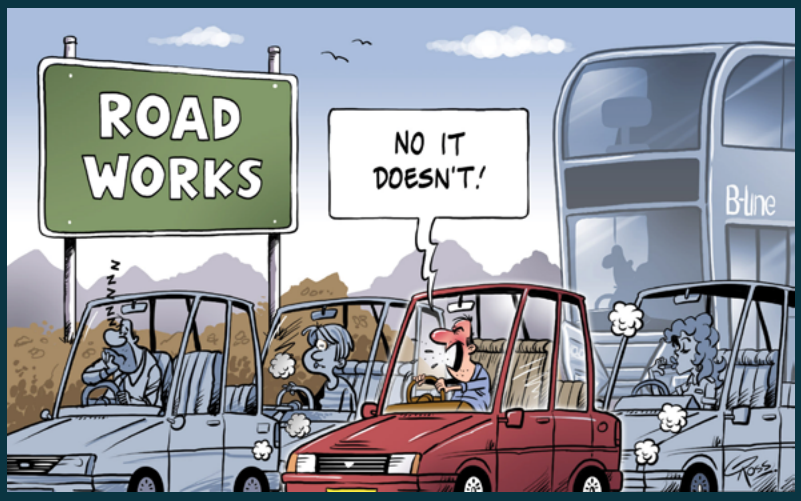
SITE MEETING Our fabulous new building is looking incredible! The elevator shaft is all bricked up and steel frames have certainly made a statement on the landscape… very different to our underground bunker hideaway. Things are moving along very well, on time and on budget. The team at FM Glenn have been great to work with and around, plus a massive thanks to Graham Lockett who is our project manager. We highly recommend stopping in to view the latest exhibition and check out the building so far. ….Things are going so smoothly in fact, that we are confident enough to start making plans for the opening on 28th November 2020! This will be in conjunction with the Rotary Cartoon Awards Night so pencil this in your diary and keep an eye out for updates.



ROAD WORKS BY BUDDY ROSS

Yes... we are **open** during construction

TEMPORARY OPENING HOURS
WED TO SUN 10AM-4PM

SEE WEBSITE FOR REGULAR UPDATES

Open Wed to Sun 10—4pm • Ph 02 6651 7343 • John Champion Way Coffs Harbour NSW 2450
Turn off Hogbin Drive at Racecourse Roundabout *Closed Good Friday and Christmas Day

NATIONALCARTOONGALLERY.COM.AU

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MARNIE YEATES In support of the local Camera Club we are again hosting the Marnie Yeates Nature Photography Competition. This exhibition is now in its 34th year and has a fantastic local following. It's not too late to enter… if interested you can find links to the camera club on our website or drop into the gallery to collect an entry form.

ROTARY CARTOON AWARDS The biggest event on our annual calendar is just around the corner… the Rotary Cartoon Awards. Now in their 32nd year, we have recognised the past 12 months of hardship across the entire country with the special topic "Crisis, Which Crisis?" along with the usual themes: Caricature, Comic Strip, Political, Sports and Open, with one standout prize for the Cartoon of the Year Award.

With plans to have the opening night and awards ceremony on the same weekend as the opening of the new building this is one not to miss! Please keep an eye on our website as our plans unfold.

So get your markers out or start digging through the archives, it's time to send your entries in. For full terms and conditions and to download your entry form visit our website. Entries close 29 August and are open to all.

GRAND OPENING Because our builders are so fabulous and everything is on track… we are already planning the opening of our new building for 28th November 2020! We are conjuring up as much as we can for this one, so write it in your diary and keep an eye on socials and the website for more information.

COVID-19 Lastly... we thought it important to let you all know we are a registered Covid Safe business. We have hand sanitiser for visitors, a sign-in register, and floor markings as well as new cleaning routines (and more) to ensure we are taking the best possible precautions to keep our visitors safe. We are keeping a close eye on the rules and recomendations as they change. Covid has affected us all - the gallery included. Please come visit - we need your support now more than ever and look forward to seeing you soon.

WE'RE COVID SAFE

CALENDAR DATES!

OPENING NIGHT 22 AUG 6:00PM
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
EXHIBITION DATES 22 AUG - 25 OCT

17TH ANNUAL MARNIE YEATES NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

OPENING NIGHT 30 OCTOBER @ 6:00PM
EHIBITION DATES 30 OCT-22 NOV

Rotary 32 YEARS CARTOON AWARDS

ENTRIES CLOSE 29 AUGUST
AWARDS NIGHT 28TH NOVEMBER
DETAILS COMING SOON

OPENING DAY! 28TH NOVEMBVER
DETAILS COMING SOON

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE WEBSITE