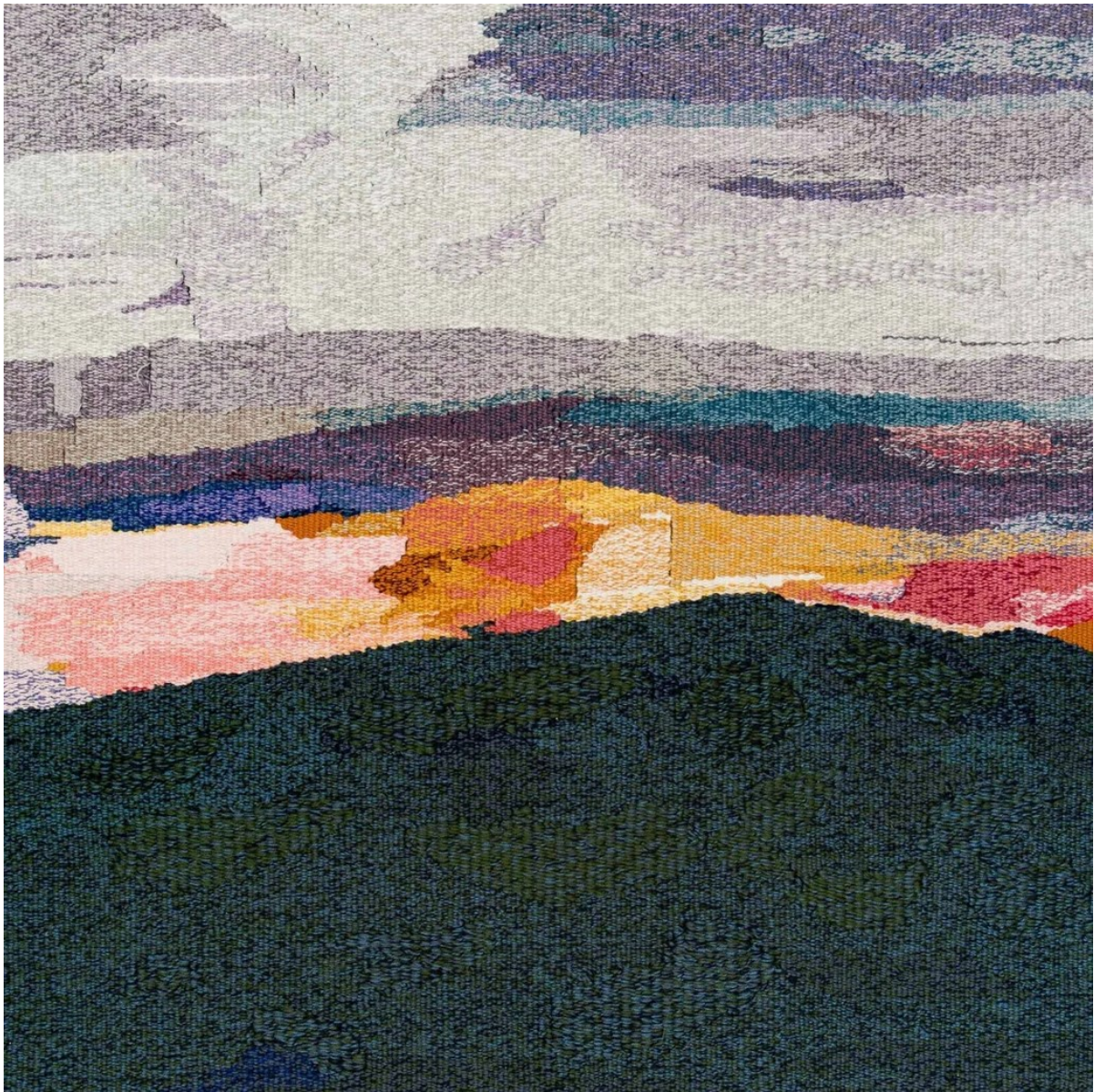




BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE Newsletter Jan - March 2026

WEBSITE: www.bmcac.org.au FACEBOOK: [bmcac](#), [bmcacsaturdaypotters](#) &
Blue Mountains Printmaking Ink
INSTAGRAM: [lifedrawing_glenbrook](#)

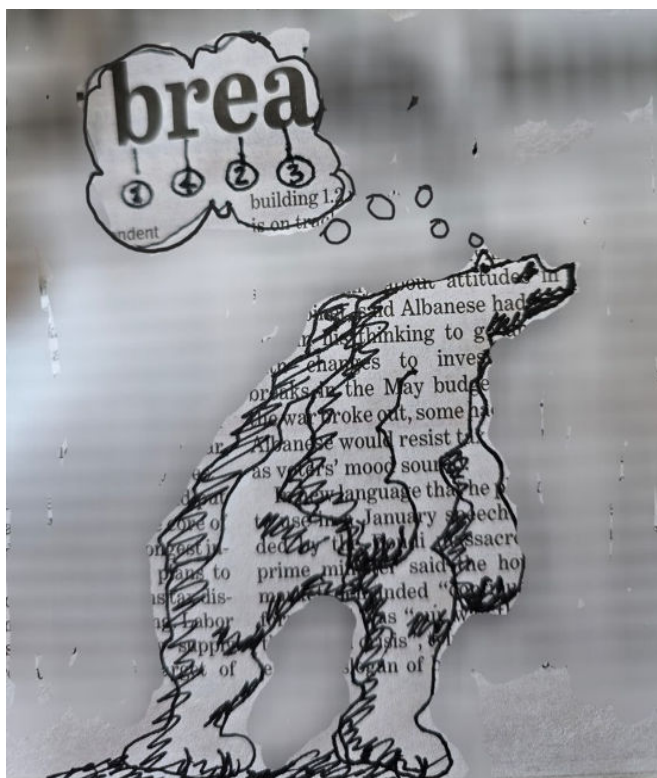


Susie Summers, *Florabella Pass 2*, woven tapestry, organic cotton, 63cm x 66cm
(see Local Exhibition Review on pages 5 & 6)

Our 'Hare Street' Centre is located on the traditional homeland of the Dharug and Gundungurra people. We recognize and pay respect to the traditional custodians of country past, present and emerging.

CONTENTS

- 3 President's Report,
Other Reports & Business
- 4 Printmaker Facilitator's Report
- 5&6 Local Exhibition Review
- 7 Poetry Corner
- 8&9 What's On?
- 10 Term 2 Timetable



'Bear doing any anagram.'
Cartoon by Marshall Smither

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Members,

Welcome to the delayed, first issue of Creations for 2026.

Please note the Members Exhibition is coming up in the first weekend of May. The catalogue for registering entries of your work and labels will be available in the April edition of Creations.

The date for our annual general meeting was changed and held on Saturday, 14 March at 2pm in the main room (Purple Building).

The AGM reports and the list of new office bearers of our committee will be published in our next newsletter.

I hope you enjoy the exhibition review and the poetry corner.

Rudi Christen

Creations' Editor

rudich7@dodo.com

EVENT SCHEDULE 2026

DATE	EVENT
Sat. 14 March 2pm	AGM
Thu. 2 April	Term 1 ends, followed by Easter weekend
Wed. 8 April	Term 2 Enrolment day
Mon. 27 April	Term 2 starts
Sat./Sun. 2-3 May	Members Exhibition

Get in touch with us !

Alison JAMES	President & Workshop Coordinator	0416 957 688	arty_ali@hotmail.com.au
Ingrid RUSSELL	Vice President & Arts Director	0423 124 473	bmcac.mail@gmail.com
Kathleen ZANARDO	Pottery Facilitator	0415 154 746	kathleen.zanardo@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT *Alison James*

Welcome back for another year of classes, workshops and group activities to get our creativity flowing.

Over the holiday break our Hare St Gallery crew were busy with work to freshen the space, and new artists have joined to experience selling their work to the public, a fantastic opportunity provided by the Centre.

The gardens are loving the mix of heat, humidity and then the rainy days with everything growing well. I think my favourite this summer is the gorgeous red geranium growing in the white pot.

Our first exhibition is on the weekend before Mother's Day. It seems early to mention it but we all know how time flies when we are having fun. So don't wait too long to start getting prepared.

Our AGM is coming up on the 14th of March, so if you are keen to get involved and would like to nominate for a committee position please do so. Remember the committee is here to do our utmost to provide our community with the best experience and opportunities that we can, so if you would like to provide some input we welcome you to get involved.

Lastly I'd like to say thank you to the committee for having me as the President over the last nine years. I am resigning from the position this year but will still be part of the committee in another role. I am so incredibly proud of what the committee and I have achieved in my time as president and am looking forward to welcoming a new president and taking on different responsibilities at the Centre.

Happy Creating

Alison James

OTHER REPORTS & BUSINESS

Pottery Facilitator's report: Kathleen resigned from the position, however she will continue to facilitate Monday night drop ins.

Publicity Officer's report: Beverley reluctantly resigned from committee duties. However, she is willing to continue working on publicity from home.

Kiln Room: Alison reported a fire in the kiln room, caused by some combustible material being left on top of baby bear which was then turned on, resulting in scorching of timbers behind the kiln and in ceiling lining. This was followed by a general discussion re kiln safety and packing responsibility. It was felt there was a need to line the wall behind baby bear with cement sheeting to protect the timbers. Also, a revamp of kiln policy and procedures was planned.

Drains: The drain outside the storeroom needs clearing as it was flooded, causing damage to bottoms of plinths.

The drain outside the kiln room also requires clearing.

AGM: Nomination forms for office bearers were handed out and filled in by present members who wish to renominate.

A Public Officer is needed to preside over elections. We hope to persuade John McInnes to do so again.

Term 1 for 2026 Exploring Printmaking has commenced on Monday mornings and Thursday night.

There is a mixture of new students and returning students.

Interested printmakers can follow regular post and printmaking news on [Facebook Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre](#). To follow students work go to [Blue Mountains Printmaking Ink](#)

Call out for printmakers in teaching at BMCAC for masterclasses or term classes in 2026 Contact :
Cheryle email: creativetraveller@icloud.com

If you are a current member you can arrange print open access times. See 2026 BMCAC timetable for the days and times. Please contact Cheryle, Mobile 0407409445 if you would like to book a time or to arrange and organise an induction if you have not used the Print Studio before.

PRINTMAKING NEWS

Cheryle Yin Lo, BMCAC's Printmaking Tutor and Print Studio Coordinator has been successfully selected for an international artist residency in Peru in June this year with Arquetopia Foundation www.arquetopia.org

Cheryle will also be in a group exhibition: '**Uncertain Sanctuary**' at Royal Botanic Gardens with the Sydney Printmakers 4-15 March 2026 . Opening 7 March at 2pm.

Sydney Printmakers www.sydneyprintmakers.com.au

BMCAC will be hosting the 2027 Blue Mountains Print Prize from 9-11 April 2027

Useful links: ART NEWS

Braemar Gallery- <https://bluemountainsculturalcentre.com.au/braemar-gallery/>

To keep in touch with upcoming exhibitions Facebook Braemar Gallery

<https://www.facebook.com/Braemargallery/>

New Cascade Art concept Pop Up Space at 1 Cascade St Katoomba has workshops in 2026.

22 February 10am-2pm Ink Painting on Chinese paper with Australian artist, David Reid.

22 March 11am-3pm Jogakbo-traditional Korean handstitching technique workshop and recycled textiles to make your own artwork with Taerim Claire Jeon.

For more information and bookings email:creativetraveller@icloud.com.au

Congratulations to BMCAC members who successfully secured exhibiting at Braemar Gallery this year.

For developing your creative or art business www.creativeplusbusiness.com

For arts news and competitions Arts Hub www.artshub.com.au

For artists from any artform interested in art residencies in Australia and overseas www.resartis.org

For Creative Mentoring services www.creativetraveller.com.au or email:creativetraveller.com.au for free PDF on 10 Tips for Creativity in Everyday Life or How To Find Your Artistuc Voice.

RECOMMENDED READING

From Blue Mountains Library

Cressida Campbell- National Gallery of Australia on woodblock printing

The Artist Way - Julia Cameron

A World of Artist Journal Pages -Dawn Devries Sokol

Local Exhibition Review: Cotton, Clay & Canvas

by Katrina Bodey & Sheona White

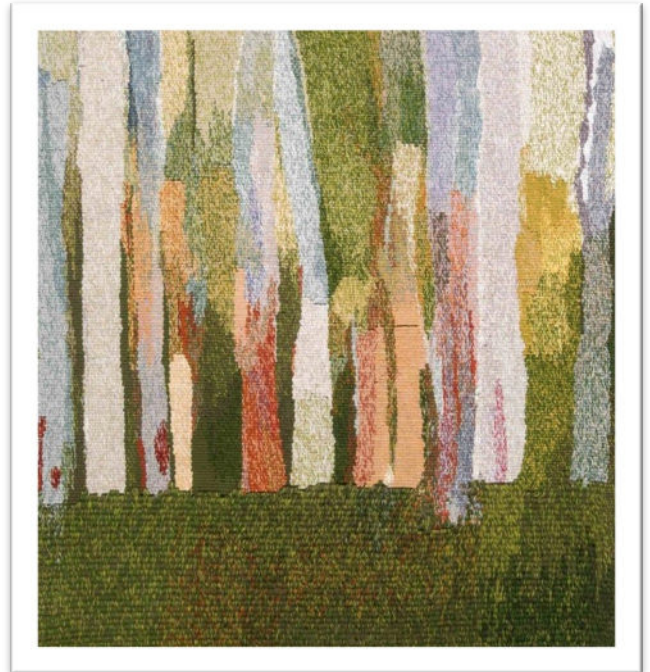
If you were seeking something quietly uplifting this Valentine's Day, Braemar Gallery offered a different kind of love story—one about friendship, shared creative practice and a love of life, light and place.

Cotton, Clay & Canvas which opened on Saturday 14 February unites tapestry, ceramic sculpture and painting in an exhibition by local artists Susie Summers, Katrina Bodey and Anita White. Inspired by their daily landscape, the works are rich in colour and texture, with an unexpected shared creative process linking the three.

The trio met through life drawing at the **Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre, Glenbrook**—a weekly practice to sharpen their skill in observation and interpretation of gesture, light, and form. It is a space that fosters connection between creative people who might otherwise work in isolation, and from which their friendship evolved.

For all three artists, there is also a shared love of the Blue Mountains, which is not simply a subject, but a daily companion and an ongoing source of inspiration.

Susie Summers' tapestries are delicately woven responses to local bushland, capturing light filtering through eucalyptus and colour intensifying across ridge lines. Each work is translated patiently from sketchbook into thread. Also featured are several interpretations from her life drawings.



Susie Summers, *Blue Gum Swamp*, woven tapestry, organic cotton and embroidery thread, 65cm x 60cm

Katrina Bodey's ceramics are inspired by Glenbrook's Angophora and Eucalyptus trees, celebrating their unique human-like forms and the shelter they provide to wildlife. Her vibrant 'drummed drawings' use thousands of tiny dots to capture the lively movement and song of rainbow lorikeets.



Katrina Bodey, *A Place Called Home*, handbuilt ceramic sculpture, 23 x 34 x 33cm



Katrina Bodey, *Morning Call*, drawing, pigment on cotton, 53.5 x 43.5 cm



Anita White, *From Tess's Window*, oil on canvas, 45 x 90 cm

Anita White's paintings extend beyond bushland to the human place of lived experience. Views "from my window" captures moments of framed observation, representing the places she has sat and watched, admired, ruminated and even grieved - distilling scenes down to their most meaningful elements.

The exhibition happened from 12 Feb to 15 March, 2026. A good way to visit was to give yourself time. Slow down. Look closely. Let the work nudge you toward compassion—for people, for place, and for the natural world that holds us.

Braemar Gallery is free entry, open Thursday–Sunday, 10am–4pm, at 104 Macquarie Road, Springwood.



Anita White, *After the party*, oil on canvas, 60 x 60 cm

Poetry Corner

The Dangling Conversation

Paul Simon

Song by Simon & Garfunkel

It's a still life water color
Of a now late afternoon
As the sun shines through the curtained lace
And shadows wash the room
And we sit and drink our coffee
Couched in our indifference
Like shells upon the shore
You can hear the ocean roar
In the dangling conversation
And the superficial sighs
The borders of our lives

And you read your Emily Dickinson
And I my Robert Frost
And we note our place with bookmarks
That measure what we've lost
Like a poem poorly written
We are verses out of rhythm
Couplets out of rhyme
In syncopated time
And the dangling conversation
And the superficial sighs
Are the borders of our lives

Yes, we speak of things that matter
With words that must be said
"Can analysis be worthwhile?"
"Is the theater really dead?"
And how the room is softly faded
And I only kiss your shadow
I cannot feel your hand
You're a stranger now unto me
Lost in the dangling conversation
And the superficial sighs



Henri Matisse, *Laurette with a Cup of Coffee*, 1916–1917

WHAT'S ON ?

Workshops, Galleries, Exhibitions, Prize Entries, Coming Events

BMCAC 2026 TERM 1

BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE

MONDAY 9.30AM-12.30PM

8 WEEK COURSE


OR THURSDAY 6PM-8.30PM

6 WEEK COURSE

COMMENCING WEEK 9 FEBRUARY 2026

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN!
www.bmcac.org.au/classes



 Cnr of Hare and Moore St
Glenbrook

NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

\$10,000 Open Prize, \$2,000 Local Prize, Youth Prizes and NEW Residency Prize in Capertee Valley NSW

This year's prize pool celebrates artists at every stage, with major awards for established, emerging and young creatives. Alongside the \$10,000 Open Prize and Local and Youth awards, the Capertee Valley Residency Prize offers time and space to create in one of NSW's most remarkable landscapes.

One Open Prize entrant will receive:

An immersive artist residency opportunity, of between one and two weeks, in the extraordinary Capertee Valley just beyond the Blue Mountains, generously supported by artist and inaugural St Columba's Art Prize finalist *Corinne Loxton*.

ST COLUMBA'S
CATHOLIC COLLEGE



DETAILS

Dates: August or November 2026, or February 2027

Accommodation: Restored vintage caravans or shared cottage (TBC), with self-catering kitchen, studio space and communal areas

Transport: Not provided

Location & access: Remote working farm, approx. 25 minutes from the nearest hospital; requires reasonable fitness and mobility

Eligibility: To be considered, entrants must select "Yes" to the Residency option on the entry form.

Important Dates to Remember

**3
MAR**

Entries Close

**31
MAR**

Finalists Notified

**1
MAY**

Winners Announced

We welcome works in painting, drawing, sculpture, textiles, ceramics & mixed media. Photography, digital – including digitally printed, video and ai works are not eligible.

Open to all themes, our **judges** will be looking for artworks that show a combination of creativity, skill, and thoughtful ideas. Finalist pieces will demonstrate strong technique and use of materials, while also evoking emotion, curiosity, or inviting reflection.



Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre, Glenbrook

Class Timetable Term 2, 2026 www.bmcac.org.au

Online enrolments open April 8.

Week 1 starts April 28, term goes for 8 weeks, finishing June 22, unless otherwise stated on timetable.

Please note: Children must be enrolled prior to attending lessons. Late enrolments cannot be accepted unless there is 4:00-5:30 room in the class, please email enquiry to bmcac.mail@gmail.com. Children's classes are for children aged 6 to 12 years.

All adult students must be members of BMCAC. Membership is \$50 per annum. \$25 after June.

Day	Time	Code – Class	Teacher/ Facilitator
Mon	9:30 – 12:30	APMM9 – Exploring Printmaking - Come and learn different printmaking techniques. Suitable for beginners and experienced printmakers. Materials list will be sent by email to students once booking is made. \$260	Marnie Tomczyk
	12:30-2:30	Printmaking -Open Studios Access Drop in and print. Book in with Alison	
	1:45-3:15	HSAT9 – Art making for Home Schooled children. Explore a variety of art making skills. \$220, materials included.	Micaela Christie
	3:45-5:15	CAM4 – Young Masters – Art class using the Masters as a focus for exploration of painting, drawing and art making. For ages 8 to 12. \$220, all materials included	Micaela Christie
	4:00 - 5:30	CPM4 – Pottery for Children – Fun with clay ages 6 to 12. \$220	Linda Hernando
	6:30-8:30	AAM6 – Drawing for beginners and Intermediate. Learn the finer skills of drawing. \$220	Gus Carrozza
	6:30 -9:30	Drop in and pot – experienced only – no tuition. Membership of BMCAC and Potters Group required. \$10 per session. Ring to book:	Kathleen Zenardo
Tues	4:00 - 5:30	CPT4 – Pottery for Children – Fun with clay for ages 6 to 12. \$220	Linda Hernando
	6:30 - 9:00	AMT6 – Mosaics - Come and learn mosaics for the first time or improve your existing skills. Adult class suitable for all levels. \$240 - plus \$45 materials fee in cash (8 x 3 hr sessions)	Selena Seifert
	6:30 - 9:30	Drop in and pot – experienced only – no tuition. Membership of BMCAC and Potters Group required. \$10 per session. Ring to book	Janet Larson
Wed	9:30– 12:30	AMW9– Mosaics - Come and learn mosaics for the first time or improve your existing skills. Adult class suitable for all levels. \$260- plus \$45 materials fee in cash (8 x 3 hr sessions)	Selena Seifert
	4:00-5:30	CPW4 - Pottery for Senior Primary and Junior Secondary students - Extending skills in clay work. (Ages 11 to 15) \$220	Linda Hernando
	6:30 - 8:30	APW6 – Pottery for Adults – Hand building and wheel throwing for beginners and continuers. beginners class, 4 weeks of hand building and 4 weeks of wheel throwing. \$220 (plus \$40 cash glaze and firing fee due week 3). Optional: A basic tool kit and clay \$50 cash on first session, or just clay \$30.	Ingrid Russell
	6:30 -8:30	AWW6 – Painting with Watercolour – beginners and intermediate. Learn the basics or extend skills in painting with watercolour \$220	Gus Carrozza
Thurs	1:30 - 3:30	APTH1 – Pottery for Adults – For continuers – Hand building. Project based course. Participants are free to create their own vision in clay with support. Firing and Materials fee \$40 cash. \$220	Ingrid Russell
	1:30 - 3:30	AWTH1 – Pen and Wash with Watercolours– beginners and intermediate. Learn the basics or extend skills in pen and wash with watercolours. - \$220	Gus Carrozza
	6:30 – 9:00	APTH6 – Pottery for Adults – For continuers – Hand building. Project based course . Participants are free to create their own vision in clay with support. 6 x 2.5 hrs. Firing and materials fee \$40 cash. \$220	Ingrid Russell
	6:30-9:00	APMTH6 – Exploring Printmaking - Come and learn different printmaking techniques. Suitable for beginners and experienced printmakers. Materials list will be sent by email to students once booking is made. \$260	Danielle Lister
	7:30 - 9:30	Committee meeting – first Thursday per month. Members welcome.	N/A
Fri	9:45-12:45	LDF10 - Life Drawing. Untutored sessions with model. \$220 for 8 weeks. Enrol online.	Rick Hawkins
	1:30-5:00	Drop in and Print – experienced only – No tuition. Come and use our print making facilities. Membership of BMCAC and Print Group required. \$5 per session with own materials or \$15 using centre materials. Available when no exhibitions or workshops are happening. Book with facilitator	Alison
	10:00 – 12:00	APF10 – Throwing on the Wheel. For beginners and intermediate. \$30 cash materials fee. \$50 cash Clay and tools. \$220	Cristina lafigliola
	2:00 – 3:30	HSPF9 – Pottery for Home schooled children - Students will be introduced to the art of hand building pottery. \$220	Cristina lafigliola
	4:00 – 5:30	CPF4 – Pottery for children. A playful journey with clay (ages 6-12) \$220	Cristina lafigliola
	6:30-8:30	APF6 – Wheel throwing. For beginners and intermediates. \$220. \$30 cash materials fee. \$50 cash Clay and tools.	Cristina lafigliola
Sat	9:00 - 12:00	Drop in and pot – experienced only – no tuition. Membership of BMCAC and Potters Group required. \$5 per session. Book with facilitator	Michael Dausmann.
	9:00 – 5:00	Drop In and Print – experienced only – No tuition. Come and use our print making facilities. Membership of BMCAC and Print Group required. \$5 per session with own materials or \$15 using centre materials. Available when no exhibitions or workshops are happening. Book with facilitator	Alison
Sun	9:00 - 5:00	Drop in and Print – experienced only – No tuition. Come and use our print making facilities. Membership of BMCAC and Print Group required. \$5 per session with own materials or \$15 using centre materials. Available when no exhibitions or workshops are happening. Book with facilitator	