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## Sarina Tourist Arts and Crafts Centre Newsletter May 9, 2018



*Annette Kunze-Perry sits at her spinning wheel, creating wool for her knitwear designs.*

### Annette spins unique designs

HAND-SPUN wool features in unique textiles now on display at the Sarina Tourist, Arts and Crafts Centre at the Field of Dreams parklands.

Artist of the Month Annette Kunze-Perry has a display of knitwear hand-spun on a spinning wheel, a process she has refined from her youth.

“From a young age my mother Ally taught me knitting, crocheting and other crafts. This has continued through my life,” she said.

“In 2012 I learnt to spin fleece with the local country spinners in Edinburgh, South Australia, who embraced me into their group by loaning me a wheel and encouraging me to learn.

“My spinning technique continues as rustic as I wish people to know that their item is unique and not ‘perfect’ like commercial yarns. In 2016 I attended Shetland Wool Week in Scotland which expanded my knowledge of dyeing and spinning.



*Annette’s display at the Sarina Tourism, Art and Craft Centre.*

“My passion for fleece, textures and creative design has expanded from there.”

Annette teamed with her mum Ally and daughter-in-law Kirsty to create Alli-Anne Knits in 2012 when she retired from her management position, started travelling and learning textile skills and rekindled her passion for the craft.

“Our crafts now include tie dyeing, sewing and clay as well,”

she said.

“I like creating items specific to the businesses or areas our crafts are available in. We take pleasure in knowing that our items are affordable for all.”

The craft centre is manned by volunteers and is open seven days a week.



*Looks yummy, doesn’t it? But there wasn’t a great deal of food left over after our volunteers catered for two busloads of delegates to the annual conference of the Australian Society of Sugar Cane Technologists. Among the helpers on the day were, from left Jennifer Costello, Dulcie Christensen, Jenny Price, Lilian Brown, Mary Whitaker, Helen Stewart, Marg Hinrichs and Len Costello.*

## Volunteers get first look at new information centre

VOLUNTEERS at the Sarina Tourism, Arts and Crafts Centre will be among the first to get a look at the new Mackay Tourism Information Centre now being finalised at the Sarina Railway Station.

Tourism Information Centre manager Felicity Holder said a “walk-through” for volunteers would be held on the morning of Friday, May 18, when a morning tea would be held at the craft centre at 10am followed by the inspection at 10.30.

Those wishing to attend are asked to let Jennifer Costello know by the previous Tuesday for catering purposes.

Felicity and Tas Webber, the general manager of Tourism Mackay, attended the May monthly meeting of the craft society at which a Memorandum of Understanding relating to the new information centre was discussed.

The Sarina Tourism, Arts and Crafts Centre started trading as a combined tourism information centre and arts and crafts centre in 1996, in the original Sarina Court House which was sited next to the Police Station in Broad Street, later moved to St Anne’s School and then to the Field of Dreams. More than 10,000 tourists have called into the centre each year.

The craft society is to have a display at the new information centre, which is expected to include material from the Artist of the Month, with signs indicating that the goods are available for purchase at the craft centre. It is also hoped to have a plaque erected at the information centre recognising all the volunteers who have manned the Sarina Tourism Information Centre.

Businesses which have information brochures at the Sarina Tourism, Arts and Crafts Centre are asked to collect their material by June 30, ahead of the expected opening of the new information centre in July.

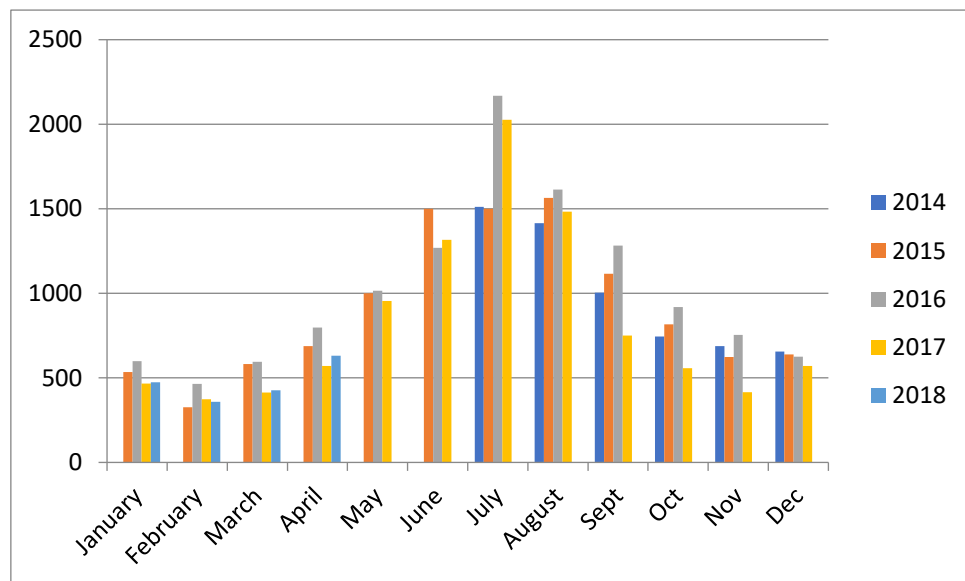
It is proposed that the old Sarina jail, which presently houses the tourism information literature, will be set up as it was back in its early days, as a place for photo opportunities for those visiting the craft centre.

## Cent sale planned as fundraiser

To raise money for the Arts and Crafts Centre we are holding a cent sale in conjunction with Jenny Miotto from Variety Qld. A date for the cent sale has not been finalised but is expected to be in October or December this year. Treasurer Jennifer Costello will let you all know in plenty of time for you all to attend.

Jenny would like to ask if all crafters would donate one hand-made prize to our cent sale to save on costs of purchasing so many prizes. There will be 200 prizes in all, the approximate price we look at is between \$10 and \$15. There is also a large container at the centre if anyone has any non-perishable tins, packets etc that we can use to fill a bucket as a cent sale prize. It can be tins or packaged food, washing requirements, bath requirements, pet food, car washing equipment etc.

The Arts and Crafts Centre will cater for a morning tea for the Mackay Para Support Group on Thursday, May 17.



The above chart shows tourist numbers at the Mackay Tourist, Arts and Crafts Centre for the past four years. A total of 631 tourists visited in April, slightly up on March.

## Event calendar

May 11 Sarina State School Fair 2018 5pm-9pm @ Sarina State School, Sarina

May 16 Discover IT – eSnap @ Sarina Library, Sarina. 2pm-3.30pm Bookings are essential and can be made online at [mackay.qld.gov.au/whatson](http://mackay.qld.gov.au/whatson) or by calling 4961 9387

May 19 - 20 Sarina Relay for Life 2pm-8am @ Sarina Showgrounds, Sarina

May 26 Sarina & District Community Kindergarten Open Day @ 32-34 Lee Street 9am-12noon For further information please contact the Kindy on 49 561 580.

May 27 Sarina Showground Markets 7am-12noon @ Sarina Showgrounds, Sarina.

May 30 Discover IT-eSocial @ Sarina Library, Sarina 2pm-3.30pm Bookings are essential and can be made online at [mackay.qld.gov.au/whatson](http://mackay.qld.gov.au/whatson) or by calling 4961 9387.

Upcoming Events: June 10 Sarina Queensland Day Celebrations @ Field of Dreams Parklands, Sarina