



## Sarina Tourist Arts and Crafts Centre

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## Spring style arrives at centre



*Stylish hats are all the go for spring, as Rhonda Payne shows.*

SPRING has sprung, and with it comes a chance to pop into the Sarina Arts and Crafts Centre to check out its range of unique handcrafted creations.

Bags, purses, hats and scarves feature among the offerings in the spring display, which will continue for the month of September.

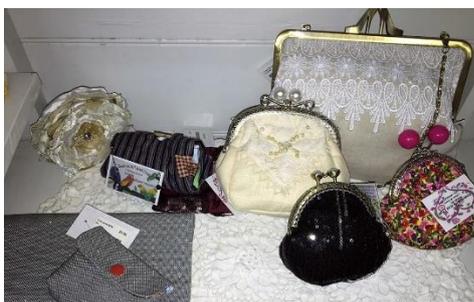
Not only is the work high quality, but you are guaranteed every item is locally hand-made and therefore unique.

Secretary Rhonda Payne said the Arts and Crafts Centre was proud to stock the product of the many talented craftspeople in the Sarina and wider Mackay areas.

“Our crafters have many years of experience

at knitting, sewing, weaving and many other handicrafts which we have bought together at the Arts and Crafts Centre.

“Our centre is entirely voluntarily run and was established with the support of Mackay Regional Council in 1995 as an outlet to market the produce of the crafters of our region and as a visitor information centre.



“The centre is a complex of three beautiful historic buildings – the Sarina Court House and Watch House built in 1901 and the old Mt Pelion School, which dates from 1926.

“The crafters and other volunteers give their time to keep the centre open every day of the year apart from public holidays.

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“Our centre has won two gold awards from Mackay Tourism – in 2015 for heritage buildings and 2018 for volunteer organisations.”

The centre is situated next-door to the new Mackay Region Visitor Information Centre at the former Sarina Railway Station, which caters to visitors throughout Australia and overseas.

“We know we have many visitors who make a point of stopping at the Arts and Crafts Centre to check out our range, as they have been here before and know that we stock quality goods,” Mrs Payne said.

The centre is open 9-5 Monday to Saturday and 9-1 Sundays. You can contact the centre on 49430598 or check out our Facebook page Sarina Community Art and Craft.



*\$100 cash is up for grabs at the Sarina Arts and Crafts Twilight Markets.*

# \$100 cash is up for grabs

BLACK Friday is lucky for some as there is another chance to win \$100 cash at the next Sarina Arts and Crafts Twilight Markets.

The markets resume on Friday night, September 13, from 4pm – 8pm at the Field of Dreams Parkland, and a lucky visitor will win \$100 thanks to sponsorship by Jennifer and Len Costello.

To be in the draw you have to be at the markets and you can get a ticket to be in the running for the \$100 cash by purchasing something at the stalls or at the Craft Centre.

Come on down and have a browse through lots of gifts made by locals. The markets feature plants, toys, clothes, pots, jewellery, preserves and much more, and the Craft Centre will be open for you to pick up some quality locally handcrafted goods.

A sausage sizzle, along with hot and cold drinks will be available from 4pm to 8pm. The July markets featured a \$100 cash draw won by Sarina’s Benita Weston. For stall bookings phone Les Brown on 49562581.



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## A request from the Elves

THE elves of the Sarina Arts and Crafts Centre, the volunteers who organise craft in the centre, would like to request that craft not be moved from one place to another in the centre by any volunteer. The elves work very hard every month to make the centre look attractive and to feature either a theme or an artist and would appreciate the craft being left where it is.

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### The tongs are out

IT will be tongs at 15 paces when the Sarina Barbecue Rules is held on Sunday, September 21.

Teams are being sought for the challenge, from 2-6pm at the Sarina Field of Dreams Parkland.

MECC executive chef Carly James will give cooking demos. Contact Sarina Neighbourhood Centre for a registration form on 49619283.



*Even Di Proctor's hand was dressed up in purple and red for the Red Hatters Gaggle. BELOW: Mayor Greg Williamson with his 'molls' Rhonda Payne and Mandy Brown.*



### Red and purple in vogue

RED hats and purple dresses were in vogue for a Gaggle weekend in Mackay.

More than 120 women from throughout Australia gathered for a weekend themed on Roaring 20s and Pearls and Lace which included functions at the MECC and visits to attractions around Mackay.

They are members of the Australian Red Hat Society, a group with clubs throughout the nation which holds regular meetings to offer fun and friendship for women.

Mayor Greg Williamson, one of the few men to be sighted at the Gaggle, got into the spirit with a bright red hat at a welcoming function at the MECC.

Mackay Sugar Babes, one of seven clubs in the region, organised the event. Sugar Babes Queen Karyn Kleinschmidt said Red Hatters was a world-wide not for profit organisation, founded 20 years ago in America.

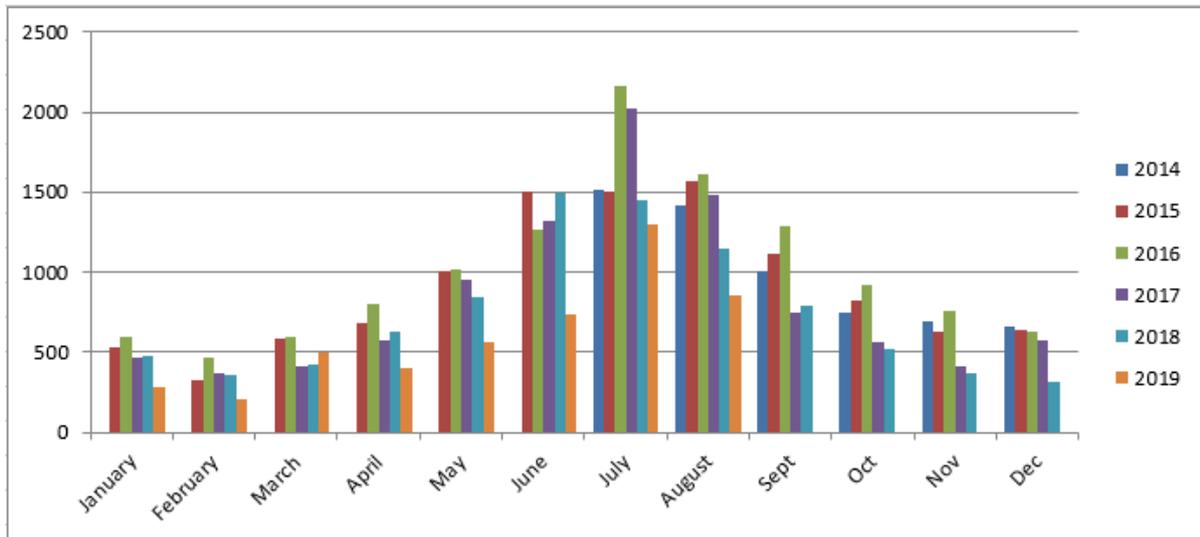
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Karen Parchert, Helen Stewart, Jennifer Costello, Di Proctor and Heather Ruddell at the Seniors Lunch.

## Students sing and dance for the seniors

MORE than 170 people packed the Bob Wood Cultural Hall for the Sarina Seniors Week lunch organised by Mackay Regional Council and Sarina Neighbourhood Centre. Children from Swayneville State School, Sarina State School and St Anne’s Catholic School sang, and Creative Edge Dance Studio and Sarina Dance School gave performances. St Anne’s Catholic Primary School students served lunch. The Sarina District School Chaplaincy Committee catered the lunch, at which guest speakers included Margie Newport from the Mackay Women’s Centre, Susie Comin from Terry White Chemist and Sarina Police officers Nick and Emma.



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
January		535	598	467	474	283
February		326	464	373	358	211
March		582	596	414	426	495
April		687	798	571	631	404
May		1001	1015	954	839	564
June		1500	1270	1317	1488	738
July	1511	1501	2168	2026	1446	1301
August	1414	1565	1614	1483	1145	850
Sept	1005	1115	1283	751	793	
Oct	745	817	918	558	517	
Nov	688	623	754	416	368	
Dec	656	638	626	570	318	
Totals		10890	12104	9900	8803	4846

## Visitors arrive

A TOTAL of 850 visitors were logged at the Sarina Arts and Crafts Centre during August.

The chart above and the table at left give the figures for since 2014.