

Rising Tides Binalup Community Artworks



Edited by Natasha Pauli and Eloise Biggs
with Daniel Jan Martin, Carmen Elrick-Barr, Abbie Rogers,
Liam Mouritz, Sofie Nielsen, Arnold van Rooijen and Michael Cuttler



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**

**OCEANS
INSTITUTE**

Rising Tides Binalup Community Artworks: Digital Exhibition Catalogue

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The artworks in this catalogue were created in November 2024 by local community members as part of a research project at the University of Western Australia, 'Rising Tides: Imagining Coastal Resilience'. The original artworks were displayed at the Western Australian Museum of the Great Southern, 24-27 July 2025.

Coastal regions around the world are grappling with the accelerating impacts of climate change, environmental stress, and population growth. Securing a sustainable future for coastal regions requires innovative approaches that draw on science and local community values.

A groundbreaking initiative, funded by the UWA Oceans Institute's *Better Oceans Program*, explored a transdisciplinary approach by engaging local Western Australian communities through the transformative power of art and design.

Beginning in early 2024, this project brought together social science, landscape architecture, and biophysical science to develop resilient, community-centred visions for coastal futures. The Middleton Bay region in Albany, from Binalup | Ellen Cove to Emu Point, was chosen as a case study to re-imagine coastal resilience through the perspective of local residents.

In November 2024, community workshops were co-led by the research team and artists Bev Doig, Verity Byth, Nev Clarke and Renée Pettitt-Schipp. Participants shared their values, memories and hopes for their coastline through paper collage, textile art, poetry and photography. Researchers including project lead Natasha Pauli, Eloise Biggs, Susie Cramp and Sofie Nielsen conducted short interviews to capture personal insights into what matters most to people about these coastal areas today - and for the generations to come.

The artworks and the attached stories (or 'artist statements') are the creations of the community members who attended project workshops. Copyright of the images remains with the artists, who granted permission to the research team to reproduce their art and words in digital form.

Through 2025, landscape architects Daniel Jan Martin and Liam Mouritz of Super Natural and UWA School of Design, with colleague Sofie Nielsen, led Rising Tides Binalup. They prepared a speculative landscape framework for an optimistic future of rising tides, with UWA landscape architecture students drawing and exploring seven places of focus within it.

The accompanying foldout, *Rising Tides Binalup*, was authored by Daniel, Liam and Sofie, along with students Amity Crappsley-Pope, Ryan Munyard, Mark Patrick Tay, Megan Dease, Avril Stewart, Ruth Mengler and Kenjie Ben. This foldout represents a speculative vision and overview of the design and places of focus.

The foldout and designs can be viewed at <https://uwadesign.aflip.in/8d046105d6.html>

In a world where diverse, nature-based visions for coastal regions are often lacking, this project fosters dialogue and creative solutions for adapting to change. By integrating local perspectives, artistic expression, and responsive design, this initiative can inform future policy and planning to shape a more resilient, community-driven vision for coastal resilience.

The Better Oceans Program is supported by future-focused businesses and philanthropists, with the outcome of supporting high impact research that contributes to a thriving blue planet.

On this coast, we teach, learn, design and
create on Menang Noongar Country.

We acknowledge the ocean and the land
and the Traditional Owners and Elders
of this Country.





This project has been made possible with funding from UWA Oceans Institute's Better Oceans Program.

The community art workshops were led by Natasha Pauli with researchers Eloise Biggs, Sofie Nielsen, Susannah Cramp, Carmen-Elrick Barr and Abbie Rogers and artists Verity Byth, Bev Doig, Nev Clarke and Reneé Pettitt-Schipp.

The Rising Tides Binalup design project by Super Natural and UWA School of Design, was led by Daniel Jan Martin, Liam Mouritz and Sofie Nielsen with UWA landscape architecture students.

The project is an endorsed UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development Action.

Thank you to all the participating community members, including those featured in Rising Tides

A Wong
Amelia Dempster
Ann Copeman
Anne Sparrow
Aunty Boss (Erica Gardiner)
Barb M
Barbara Temperton
Chelsea Hopkins-Allan
E Cuthbert
EJK
Heidi
Helen Bolton
Helen Lapins
JAC

Jane Plant
Jen Fraser
Jenne Jay
Jhodi Bennett
Jo Wassell
Judy Maughan
Kali
Karen Quain
Liane
Lisa Marija
Lord Digby and Prinz
Merry Robertson
Norma Jenkins
Pamela MW Watts
Peter

Rachel Saw
Rhonda
Samantha Dixon
Sarah Williams
Silvia Laing
Sophie Cuthbert
Susan
Suzie Kettle
Tricia Darling
V Byth
Photo. participants:
CK, GJ, IM, KS, SF, SO
Poetry participant: SL

Thank you to the landscape architecture students who took part in Rising Tides Binalup

Amity Crappsley-Pope
Ryan Munyard

Mark Patrick Tay
Megan Dease
Avril Stewart

Ruth Mengler
Kenjie Ben

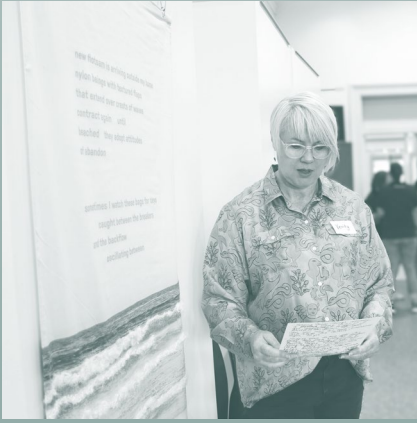
Thank you to all the supporters of the Rising Tides Studio and wider project

Aunty Lynette Knapp
Dion Cummings
Stephen Hopper
Tim Martin
Susie Cramp
Holly Butterworth
Renaë Van Noort
UWA Albany Centre
Anthony McEwan
Nick Walker
Tahli Crosby
City of Albany
Museum of the Great Southern

Vivienne White
Arnold van Rooijen
Michael Cuttler
Wiebke Ebeling
UWA Oceans Institute
Liena Fordham
Emma Gill
UWA Centre for Water
and Spatial Science
Tammie Harold
UWA Centre for
Environmental
Economics and Policy
Natalie Jarvis

Children's University
WA Partnership
Lucy Sheehy
Verity Byth
Bev Doig
Nev Clarke
Reneé Pettitt-Schipp
Annick Akanni
Janine Sheen
Three Anchors
Vancouver Arts Centre
Voilà Artisan Bakery
UNESCO Ocean Decade
And/And

We welcome further conversation about Rising Tides. If you'd like to get in contact, please email Natasha Pauli at natasha.pauli@uwa.edu.au, or Daniel Jan Martin at daniel.martin@uwa.edu.au



*In your shoes, I can
imagine at your special
place or perspective at the
beach - all the way from
the point near the surf
on the along the beach
to Emu point. See the
night take a different
perspective - up high, com-
ing out at sea, coming
land, coming in from the city
or from the city*



Textiles

November 2024

Workshops facilitated by Verity Byth





A Wong

Surfers Beach, Middleton

Mixed media textile square, 2024

If you walk a little bit north of Middleton Beach to Surfers Beach, that's where I surf. I've spent a lot of time down here on cloudy days, which is most days in Albany. Some of my favourite memories are when it's really clear. The dark and light colours represent those different days: every day is perfect. The lines are people, and the clock formation is to show the time that we've spent together. Occasionally lots of shells turn up on the beach, which are the silkworm cocoons.

Surfers is important to me because it's so close to home. I work nearby so on the summery days it's easy to finish work and then just pop down to the beach and everyone's there already - you'll definitely see someone you know every time. Middleton Beach is community, but also a place where it's always peaceful.

Albany is just one of those places that you go, but you can never leave.



Barb M

Surfers Beach, Middleton

Mixed media textile square, 2024

My artwork represents walking down the path towards the water at Surfers Beach, with the sandy beach, the waves and the sky. I particularly love the beach spinifex grass blowing in the wind. This area is important for so many reasons, including wildlife corridors and connecting the ocean with Lake Seppings.

This place is very familiar to me. Culturally, it's very much part of my life – I learnt to swim here, so did my children, and my grandchildren are learning to be lifesavers. I live close to the beach, and I go there almost every day, sometimes twice a day. We swim in the mornings and walk in the afternoon. I'm a granny grommet – there's about a hundred of us and we surf every Friday.

Hopefully Surfers Beach can remain a playground for people, and the natural environment protected.



Anne Sparrow

Griffith Road car park section of Middleton Beach

Mixed media textile square, 2024

This place is about two-thirds of the way up to Emu Point. It's a beautiful view, standing in the clear water, looking up at the dunes and the Norfolk Island Pine. The pine is a landmark and a destination. We walk a lot at this beach. For us, it's as much about health as it is about the environment. In the future, it would be nice to see more migratory birds returning.



E Cuthbert

Middleton Beach with the jetty

Mixed media textile square, 2024

My artwork captures changing waves and times, compiled into one representation. There are grey days, sunny days, sunsets and night-time with the lighthouse.

I try and go for a swim in this little pocket of the beach, every day, even all through winter. I've watched the beach change considerably over those times and even day to day, it's a completely different beach: with different wave formations, different weather, seaweed on the beach or in the water, shells, the tide, visibility, the sky, everything. It always changes, even from the morning to the afternoon.

Middleton Beach has become a place of grounding within my day. It's a special place, it attracts all different people, it's accessible to anyone. I think that's the beauty of it.



Jen Fraser

Ellen Cove

Mixed media textile square, 2024

I lived above Ellen Cove many years ago and it was the most beautiful place in the world to wake up to. I could see it from my veranda, and when the whales were in, I could see the whales coming through.

The natural world is a place of healing and recovery. Circular nature is central to everything - the water, the beach, the dunes and the trees. Everything is circular. The seasons come round and around they go. Humans come and go. I've come and gone. Indigenous people have been here for 60,000 years.

For me, everything is really fragile. Nothing lasts. The waves come in and they erode the beach and out they go again. The pins in the fabric are part of it - they're not permanent. It can shift and change at any time.

We have to put nature first, above everything. In the future, I would like to believe that will come to the point where we realise that nature is more important than anything.



Jenne Jay

Middleton Beach and Emu Point

Mixed media textile square, 2024

The waves represent calm - the calmness of the wave movement both gives and takes away a lot of things. When I'm sitting near the ocean, all the layers of history come to me during that quiet time, and then there are lots of questions to follow up.

Beneath the waves in this piece are layers of history that peep through. It's not just the surface that influences what we see and feel. The depths of the ocean, the First Nations connections, and the ANZAC history are all layers in the ocean.

This place is pristine, it's beautiful, it's fresh, it's got its own personality.



Jhodi Bennett

The shark net at Middleton Beach

Mixed media textile square, 2024

I swim at Middleton Beach most mornings with my friend. We swim all through the year, even in the winter. Sometimes we almost crawl into the ocean, but by the time we come out we're really exhilarated. I wanted to represent the winter at 5:30 in the morning, when you can't see anything.

When it's pitch black, occasionally there's something in the water that glows. When you stroke your hand through the water, sparkly bubbles appear and it's a truly magical experience. It's a surprise, that's what I love. You get in, just like every day, but today - there's a special treat for you, with these beautiful glowing bubbles that light up the water. It's only there for a short time and you never know when it will come.

I've only used one, simple shape - circles. Circles represent rhythms and cycles. With our simple rhythm of getting in the water, we swim through the seasons of the year, and of life. I have been coming to this place for 28 years now. I visited it with my mum when she was alive. We used to walk the boardwalk together and now I walk that boardwalk with my grandchildren. There's a generational history that cycles too. It's a place of memory and history for me.



Karen Quain

Middleton Beach-Attractions

Hand dyed textiles, found and recycled objects

Known locally as *Mids*, Middleton Beach is a beautiful and vital part of Albany's coastal identity, and personally inspiring for my artwork and wellness.

Its clean waters and vibrant marine life offer countless opportunities for recreation and wellbeing, enticing people to swim, snorkel, paddle, fish and simply enjoy the natural beauty. *Mids* truly has a lot to offer, improving the lives of our community and all its visitors.

But climate change is threatening this special place. Rising tides will affect not only the shoreline but also the delicate balance of life that depends on it. Plastics in the ocean, CO₂ emissions from transport, and fewer migratory birds are all signs of a disrupted ecosystem. These changes could break the natural cycles that keep *Mids* thriving.

To protect *Mids*, we can all help by keeping the beach clean, using eco friendly fishing materials, reducing emissions, and finding sustainable ways to enjoy our clear aqua waters. Let's ensure *Mids* remains a place of joy, health, and life for generations to come.



Lord Digby and Prinz

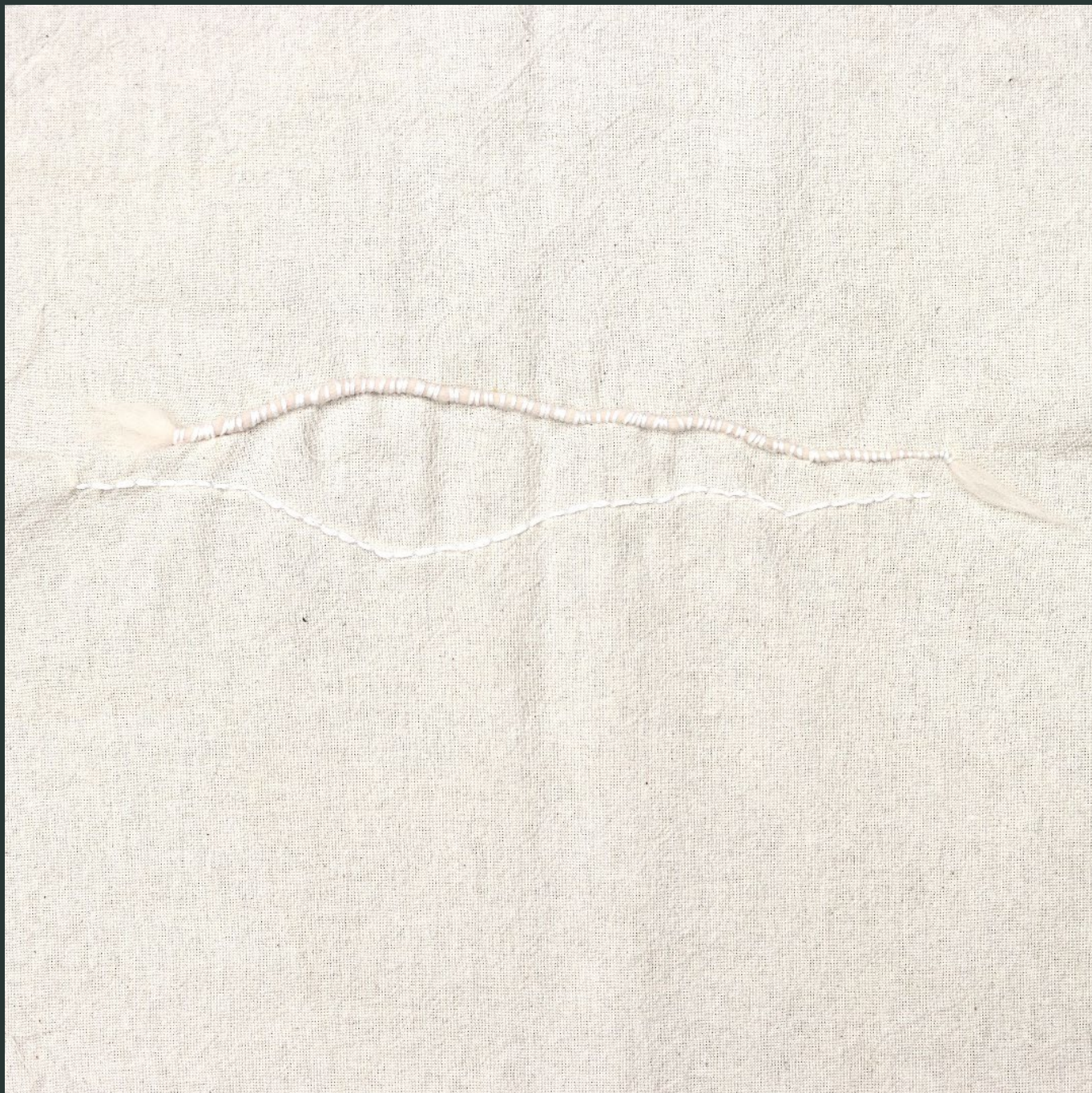
The dunes at Middleton

Mixed media textile square, 2024

The ocean is wonderful, but I really associate Middleton with the dunes - running through them with my dogs, especially my crazy, frisbee-mad one. It's a place that's happy and dog-friendly. In my work, I'm representing the joy and happiness of dogs and of living in the moment. Even in grief, that beauty lifts you up.

My dogs were killed on the beach, but it hasn't put me off going there with my next dog, because it's just nature. That's the way it is. There are tiger snakes everywhere - that's what got them. But I don't hold it against the snake. It's part of nature. Death is part of life.

The future doesn't exist until we're inhabiting it, so being with nature and animals is very much a connection with that idea of being present, and enjoying the beauty of the moment. Middleton is a place that's welcoming to wildlife - the birds, the migrating birds, the reptiles - and to our domestic friends like dogs. Nature and joy.



Jo Wassell

Tidelines

Mixed media textile square, 2024

Binalup/Middleton Beach is an important place for me. I live nearby and go there most mornings. It's where I think and reflect, and it's where creative ideas are formed.

My artwork is a response to the feeling I get from the whole stretch of the beach. I used white / natural colours and fibres to reflect the sense of a calm I get when I spend time there. The work is inspired by the tidelines that form along the shore.



Samantha Dixon

Middleton Beach

Mixed media textile square, 2024

Middleton is my hometown beach and I swim there regularly in the mornings with my best friend. It means lots of different things to me, especially friendship and family, as I tend to always be there with friends and family. I exercise there too, so it makes me feel good when I'm there.

In the summer we often see stingrays, and they swim along with us, or underneath us. One particular day, I was swimming with a friend who is terrified of the stingrays and hates seaweed. As we were swimming towards the beach, this stingray came up and swam right next to us for quite a while. It really broke her fear of the stingray.

I love how the community takes ownership of our beaches – I love being part of that community and spending time with my best friend down there. I feel so blessed.



Sarah Williams

Middleton Beach

Mixed media textile square, 2024

My artwork represents Middleton Beach, near where the peppermint trees are, in the grassy area. There are the trees, weeds, a few seashells, a bit of sea foam, and waves coming in. In the distance, there are the other islands. This place is special because we used to come down to Albany as kids during family holidays, and I've since moved here. I come down to swim and just spend time.

We often have family Christmases in that area. It was a special place for a close friend of ours, and his ashes are there, so we've got a connection in that way as well. It's about family and friends.

I'd like there to still be places for people to picnic and enjoy the area. And I'd like the natural environment to remain intact, where the native animals and plants aren't totally destroyed by climate change.



Binalup wall-hanging

Artists (from top to bottom, left to right): Lord Digby and Prinz, Karen Quain, Jen Fraser, Jodhi Bennett, E Cuthbert, Samantha Dixon, A Wong, Jo Wassell, Jenne Jay, Anne Sparrow, Barb M, Sarah Williams. Sewn together by Natasha Pauli

This group work was exhibited at Museum of the Great Southern in July 2025.



Binalup: An Anthology of Poems

Workshop facilitated by Reneé Pettitt-Schipp
Original poems edited by Reneé Pettitt-Schipp





True North

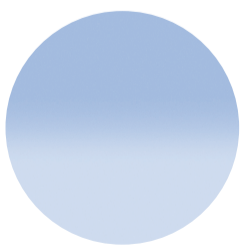
Every day I follow the same path
up and around the coastline
where I find my more-than-monotony

some days the sea calls
with a lapis blue mirror
other days I am relentlessly
whipped by wind
as sky builds its cover
in sheets of grey

today the tugboats
push and pull
a seamless team
through the mouth
of the harbour

staring across
at the aftermath of fire
watching the blackness

my true north finds itself
at the point where all worlds collide
this strange enchanted sea.



Amelia Dempster





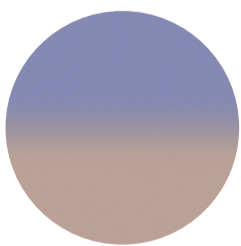
Surrender

Sound a caress
the doing of life within
the chattering murmuring quiet
of a Sunday symphony

pathways of flight flapping gulls
strident yet serene in their purpose;
webs and knots breathing, yielding
pulling weight of water
from shore

life – an open inhalation
clean and inviting
in the embalming air

I am touched
by vast intricacies
washed bathed
in a space of inclusion
and surrender.



Ann Copeman

Centre

Tilting my head, the muffled whirl
of the ocean
wind shifts and mumbles
in the whorls of my ear

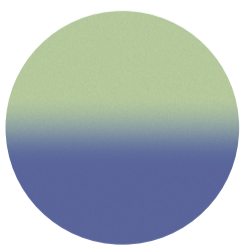
the wind does not speak
has nothing to say

zest of aquamarine
smears of colour
muted gradients of light
push against the harbour

grey-green waxy leaves
made up of the tiniest of parts
fibrous masses of eucalypt
a hillside shifting slightly
clashing in constant motion
cutting the surface of air
endlessly

sand warm like a living body
that my feet sink into
cool underneath
infinitesimal spaces of vacated homes
granulated skeletons
crushed by endless
elemental surges

a small contribution
by my two feet
shells give way
implode into their own
centre.







Middleton Beach in November

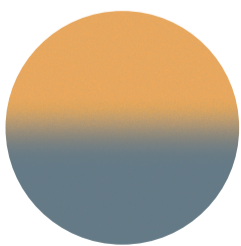
Sky covered with light grey cloud
ruffled sea grey-green
gentle waves roll to shore
curling tops foaming and fizzing

my feet cross the powdery sand
scattered with twigs
cheerful dandelions
furry green leaves sprout
through white grit

closer to water
dark wet sand
coarse brown seagrass
rooted buffeted
by occasional waves

cool sea wind blows
in nostrils across cheeks
bringing pungent scent
of seaweed
long curving beach
a slice
of apple

a child walks barefoot
into the frill of waves
two boys shriek
a lifting wave carries
their surfing bodies
to shore.



Losing Nurture

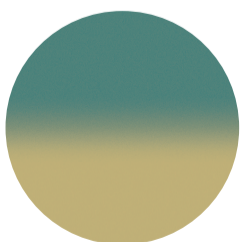
Crunch of seaweed
sharp little knives
beneath feet

an unpleasant tickle now
a reminder of life slowly
decaying around me

the horizon
interrupts the ocean
her entire being
teenagers pass
excreting little hurts and pains
I hear the cacophony of words

no-one understands
the infiltration now deep
in her seas
she spits the shards
of seaweed again
response to drain of ego
and ignorance

her sand has grown
gritty and coarse
she is aging under
the heaving blanket
of despair
I breathe her fatigue
its our time
to love her properly



Lisa Marija



Become the Sound

Hear the wind
masking squeals of children
watch waters recede
revealing
what might have been

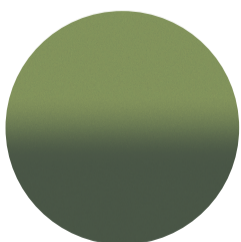
scrunch the sand
smell the weed
drink the sounds
and be healed

feel the warm releasing
unstiffening bones
touch man-made shapes
carved in local stone

watch the rhythm
caress the tree
becomes the sounds
and be healed

heart feel the sounds
and smells
eyes water as the sea swells
sand fills spaces between toes
and the heart slows

opened eyes absorb colours
fingers discover rough and smooth
eyes close, drenched in space
I exhale.



Merry Robertson





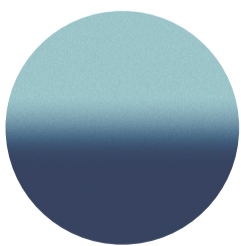
Memories Within Vastness

The sound opens out
the vast ocean
the green of the surrounding
undulating earth

memories of surf club
the lines for beach sprints
the Nippers shivering
with arms wrapped around
each other
running out of the water

the dolphins
menagerie of fish
the whales
the sharks
the risk
the fear
the thrill
of being alive

time
time passes
memories within vastness



Peter

Middleton Beach

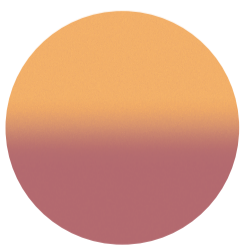
I know I am home
in the shell of my body
when the sand squeaks
beneath the soles of my feet

white line of shore
along the bay
recurring waves
in the distance
fluorescent buoys move
cars disappear around the headland
people arrive from the boardwalk
laughter from families on picnic rugs

walking I find
treasure; shells upon shells
sea sponges fine fronds
flowers of dandelions
then
I declare
Van Gogh's ear
perfectly formed

the camera girl snaps a shot

the beach gives
I constantly receive
put my feet into the offering –
cool salt water
breathe I feel
alive.



Suzie Kettle





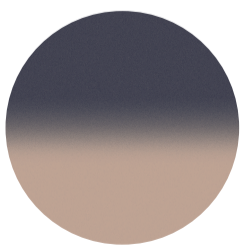
Ten Minutes at 'Mids'

Arrive, time-bound
stand at hard edge
until hand on fine sand
shifting cool between toes

nostrils crave salt seaweed smell
siphoning inwards
suncream and gusts
from warm concrete

counting breaths
waiting for the drop in
scan the long white curve of foam
feel the hug of dark hills
open to gull screech
wave shooshing
bluster of breeze
on skin

shivering, free, expanding
untethered
unjudged
unimportant
alive.



V Byth



Photography

November 2024
Workshops facilitated by Nev Clarke





Aunty Boss (Erica Gardiner)

After work family and fur kids dizzy whizzies

My sister and I had been working in our hot Vancouver Street Cafe kitchen all day and a beach walk for our labradoodles and my nephew (after a day at pre-primary) was refreshing, light-hearted, fresh air and fun. It was an afternoon treat, most days the same. In the future I would like this place to be dog and family friendly, not commercialised.



Helen Bolton
Driftwood gone



For several years I have walked along Emu Beach and been in awe of a dead tree and driftwood on the beach - lying still beside a sometimes raging sea! How many years ago did this tree provide a safe harbour for seabirds? How many years ago were its branches covered with foliage? How many years ago was it a part of a green space, rather than teetering on the edge of a beach? It would have been lovely to have some of this natural beauty retained. Please save what we can - of the beach, of nature, of our natural history!



JAC

Perfect day

Beautiful pristine clear waters, views to die for, uncrowded beach, great for calming the body and mind. In the future I would like this place to be exactly the same.



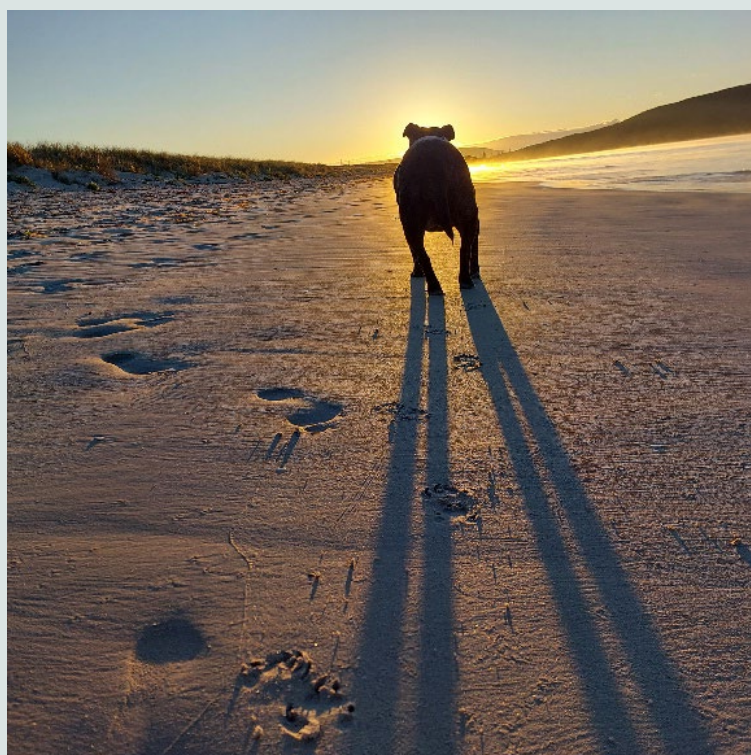
Jane Plant

Beach fun (above)

Walking my fur baby (below)

Middleton Beach is a favourite of mine and my dogs. We go in the morning to prepare our bodies and minds for our day, then go again in the afternoon to do our wind down. The beach provides a beautiful place for us to relax and reset. In our stressful world this is the ultimate way to keep mentally healthy. Every visit the beach is totally different. It is also a lovely place to engage with locals and visitors to our stunning coast. I would love to see the natural beauty remain and be able to walk my dogs.

The early morning light is a beautiful time at the beach. This is a stunning time to get some shadows in my photography. It is also a beautiful time of the morning for both my mental health and my dog to get her exercise. We love Middleton Beach. Would love to be able to keep walking my dogs along this section of the beach. We have so many lovely sections along the beach to enjoy. Swimming, surfing, dog walking, horses - we are so lucky to be able to all enjoy this space.





Kali

Two ancient observers

These two trees have been standing here for years. The one on the left has been damaged, and new shoots have sprouted and surround the base. How long will the initial tree remain, when will the new shoots take over, what has this tree seen, and how much will the original tree continue to see before she is taken over by the new shoots? Time will tell, as it has done on this beach for millennia.

When were these two planted? Some say in the 1930s, some say later. Some were replanted after storms, so we can't be sure. I have been on this beach many times, for over 65 years - am I around the same age? I would love to hear them whisper what they've seen. I would love to know these gorgeous trees will be here for many more years, and will be replaced as the older ones die.

I would like Middleton Beach to change as she will, over the next 50 or 60 years, but to retain her wise observance, of all that happens to her in the next generations. Her silent observation is deafening. I love her very much.



Silvia Laing

Sunrise

To live so near the beach and to be able to capture the beauty of Albany's sights in the first light, has gotten me a few times out of bed very early in the morning, even though I am a self-professed "late riser". In the future I would like this place to remain well maintained and preserved for future generations.



Pamela MW Watts
Sunrises



I have walked this part of Middleton Beach for many years and have hundreds of photos of spectacular sunrises. This is my space to reflect on life's ups and downs. This is the space I find peace from the hustle of the world and the reminder of how beautiful the world is. A place to continue to be visited by people to witness the majestic sunrises and walk on Beautiful Middleton Beach.



Collage

November 2024
Workshops facilitated by Bev Doig





Barbara Temperton

On the beach around Griffiths Street

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

My artwork depicts the ocean, the dunes, and the sweep of beach. The bright shapes, modelled on a coral tree leaf I found outside the library, are walkers at the water's edge.

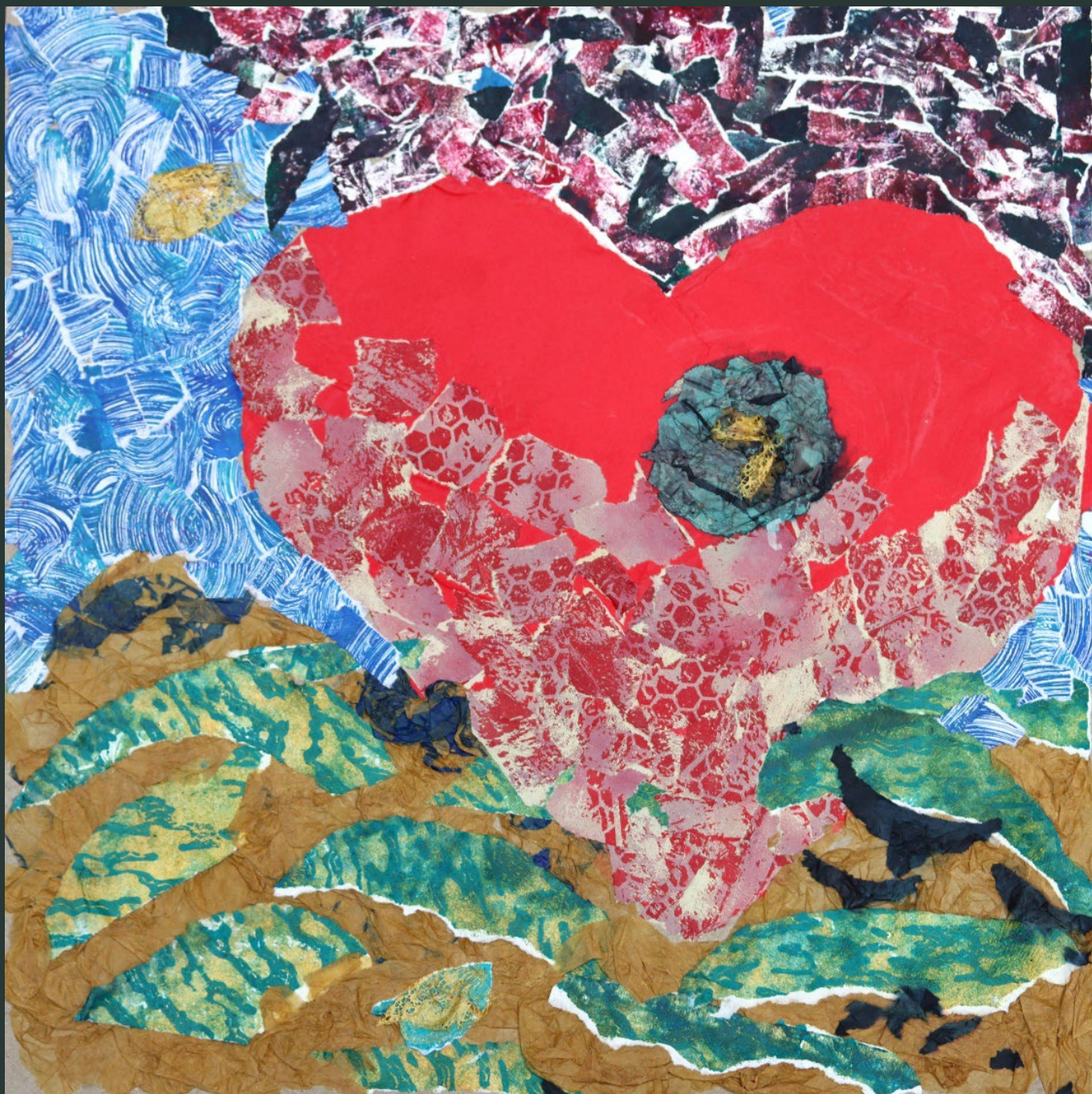
I'm less physically able than I used to be and one of the things I really miss is being able to bolt out of the house and head for the beach when I'm bored, creatively blocked, stressed, frustrated, or whatever.

Twenty-five years ago, I quit smoking. To break my existing routine, I would get out of bed first thing in the morning, before sunrise, go straight to the beach, and power-walk from Surfers to Emu Point and back.

I still really value it as a place of retreat, and a sanctuary at times of bereavement. My poem, 'Elegy for Jean' (now on the staircase at the library) is about my step-grandmother, Jean, who loved to walk there, too.

I can understand why Menang people feel Binalup is special.

I think, if you've got a soul and you stand down there on the beach you can feel it. It's a place of healing and spiritual renewal.



EJK

Dog Beach towards Binalup Cove

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

When I first heard that Indigenous people call the water here *Mammang-Koort*, which means Heart of the Whale, it just meant everything to me. I see whales there, I've raised my family there. I've walked on the beach there while pregnant, and then with my children. It is family and it is joy. When I'm mourning somebody, I go there to think of them with the moonrise. It's an emotional place.

I love when we get the easterly winds and the bluebottles blow up on the beach, as well as the blue snails and the nudibranchs that eat the bluebottles and have that same blue colouring. Electric blue is such a local colour. The whales, the dolphins, the ships and the birds are all shadows.

The heart is the centrepiece: it's the heart of my life. There's a dark spot, because not everything is joyful. There are storms gathering in the corner, along with the brightness and the blue.



Heidi

Middleton Beach, Eastern Lighthouse in the distance

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

I've been swimming at Middleton Beach for a long, long, long time. It's just magical every single time - every season, every different time of the day. I have had some amazing experiences there, where you feel so alive and part of the greater whole.

The lighthouse represents the division between nature and the threat that nature is facing from humanity. On one side the lighthouse shines on a beautiful clear ocean with people enjoying it - connecting people with nature and wildlife. The other side is dark where the light doesn't shine, and you see the threat posed to this beautiful environment from rubbish, overcrowding, development, pollution, and global warming. It's a duality - we enjoy and we destroy nature.

People need to re-establish their connection to nature. Nature is not about development and mod-cons. When you come to a natural space, actually connect with nature and don't bring all the conveniences.



Helen Lapins

Looking over Middleton Beach

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

My artwork represents Middleton Beach as you're going up the boardwalk, looking over the beach. Every year I love to go to the boardwalk, and see the whales come into the bay. It's still really natural here and not developed. You feel like you're in a natural environment. There's not that many other places where you can just go and contemplate and also watch whales.

Middleton Beach is really curvy, with the bush, the boulders and the ocean, and that's what I've tried to represent. The cocoons represent the jetty. The straight lines reflect the manmade elements.

This place is family focussed, with lots of events and gatherings. It's also accessible for many people, with paths and the lookout. I'd like it stay natural and accessible into the future.



Helen Bolton

The boardwalk on the hill

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

This is the view from where the boardwalk is on the hill, but you can't see the sand – just ocean. It's so changeable, you never know what to expect – there's that surprise element.. I'm trying to capture a moment in time, with the different colours of the water – it can be calm, and rough.

Every single moment is unique. People have to see it, to really appreciate it. Photos don't do it justice. Balance is important to be able to enjoy the landscape, being mindful to acknowledge differences, so that we can continue to share this beauty with people.

This place is as close to any afterlife that I could imagine.



Jane Plant

View from Griffith Street

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

I see lots of things at the beach: we see whales come in, the lighthouse, and there's always pelicans and seagulls. I love looking at the different seaweeds and the colours and the shells along the beach, and to see people walking.

Every time I go it's completely different. The sky is different, the water is different. What I find on the shore is different. I love chatting with the people I see down there. It's just a beautiful social place. The view is stunning. I try to go twice a day - in the morning before I go to work, walking the dogs, and in the afternoon, as my wind down after work.

Sometimes the tides are so high we don't have much beach to walk on. Man has tried to save our beach with rock groynes, removal of sand, and replacement of sand. Will the erosion be stopped? I'm not sure but I know I don't want to lose this amazing coast. Middleton Beach is a part of my life.



Judy Maughan

Pathway at Ellen Cove

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

I've got history with Ellen Cove - I've been going there for half my life now. It's a place of sanctuary, solitude, but also connection. We celebrate family things there. Ellen Cove has changed over the years, and so have my feelings - there were more people in the past and now it's more solitary.

I've had otherworldly experiences there - a connectedness that I haven't felt in any other place. After a serious health scare, I was walking on this pathway at Ellen Cove, going up the hill, and it felt like I was being enveloped in the plants and nature and being healed. I hadn't had an experience like that before or since. The foliage was surrounding me, caressing and caring for me. I felt a connectedness to myself, the place and to the whole.

Ellen Cove and the South Coast needs to be cared for, nurtured, as it nurtures us.



Norma Jenkins

Albany and Katanning

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

Albany is just beautiful. It's so scenic and peaceful. I lived in Perth for 32 years. It's so hot. I always wished I was back in Albany. I love the ocean. And I love the rural areas and the scenic coastal areas.

My collage represents the land and the sea. For the land, there's bottlebrush, wattles, beautiful green, and canola. For the sea, there's the rocks the roughness of the coast, the fish and the beautiful ocean.

The coast needs to be vibrant, with culture and events. It's essential for the young people.



Rachel Saw

Albany

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

In Albany we have a pristine coastline, white sands, a lot of beautiful wildlife and wildflowers, and incredible fish and seafood. I love the coast and the nature here. We have the country and the sea, which is a great place for swimming.

The owl represents wisdom. Albany is home to many older people. We don't call them elderly, we call them seasoned. They bring a wealth of knowledge to our community. They have lived here and contributed a lot, and we can learn from them.

I grew up in Albany as a teenager, and now I've just come back. We were on a farm and we had sheep, a whole menagerie. For anyone who's grown up in, or lived in Albany, it quite often brings us back to our roots, no matter what.



Rhonda

Middleton Beach

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

Middleton Beach has been the heart of my life, from childhood right through to today. Swimming there shaped my early years - my dad would fish from the shore, and my mum swam every morning, just like I do now. She kept swimming right up until she passed. It's in our blood, and I want those beautiful experiences to be preserved for future generations - so that families and kids can keep enjoying this special place.

The shark net has made a big difference too - parents can relax knowing their children are safer in the water.

Middleton is full of memories. It's what I share every morning with my fellow swimmers: the sunrise over the water, the laughter, the connection, the fitness. There's a rhythm to it - kids jumping off the jetty, locals fishing, and yes, I've even scattered the ashes of dear swimming friends from that same spot. It is sacred in its own way.

And then there's the deeper history - the Indigenous heritage of the area - which we must respect and protect. That story runs deep. Middleton should remain as natural as possible, so we can all keep enjoying the simple pleasures: surfing, swimming, fishing, sitting on the sand. A good shower block helps too!



Silvia Liang

Lost at sea

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

This artwork is a reflection of my inner landscape - an imagined view while wondering along Ellen Cove Boardwalk - shaped by daydreams and solitude. The walks offer more than movement: they allow clearance, deep breath and an opportunity to escape the existing reality, even if just for moments.

As a nurse working in palliative care, I deeply connect with the cycle of life and death. I have come to see breath as sacred. We are born on an inhale and we die on an exhale. In between is life - fragile and precious.

When I feel overwhelmed by daily demands, when negativity creeps in, when life seems just too hard; I return to my breath. IN - OUT . It brings me back to myself. My walk at the Cove helps me to do that. The rhythm of my steps, the creak of the boards, sometimes feet in the sand by the jetty, cool waves splashing over my feet, the sound of the birds and the wind in my hair - all this brings me back to the present moment.

Breathing calmly as I walk, I feel myself reconnect and recover.

These walks remind me that life is here, now - with each breath, each step, a gentle renewal of energy.



Sophie Cuthbert

Surfers Beach

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

I've spent a lot of time at Surfers Beach: surfing, body boarding, swimming, especially in my teenage years. Me and my friend used to go down every day, rain, hail or shine all through winter. That's what I'm trying to represent, the wild side – the storms, the dark sky, and the swell – and the quiet and calm when you come back over the dunes, towards the peppermint trees.

There's my girl – standing on the sand dune, looking out at the wild ocean energy.



Susan

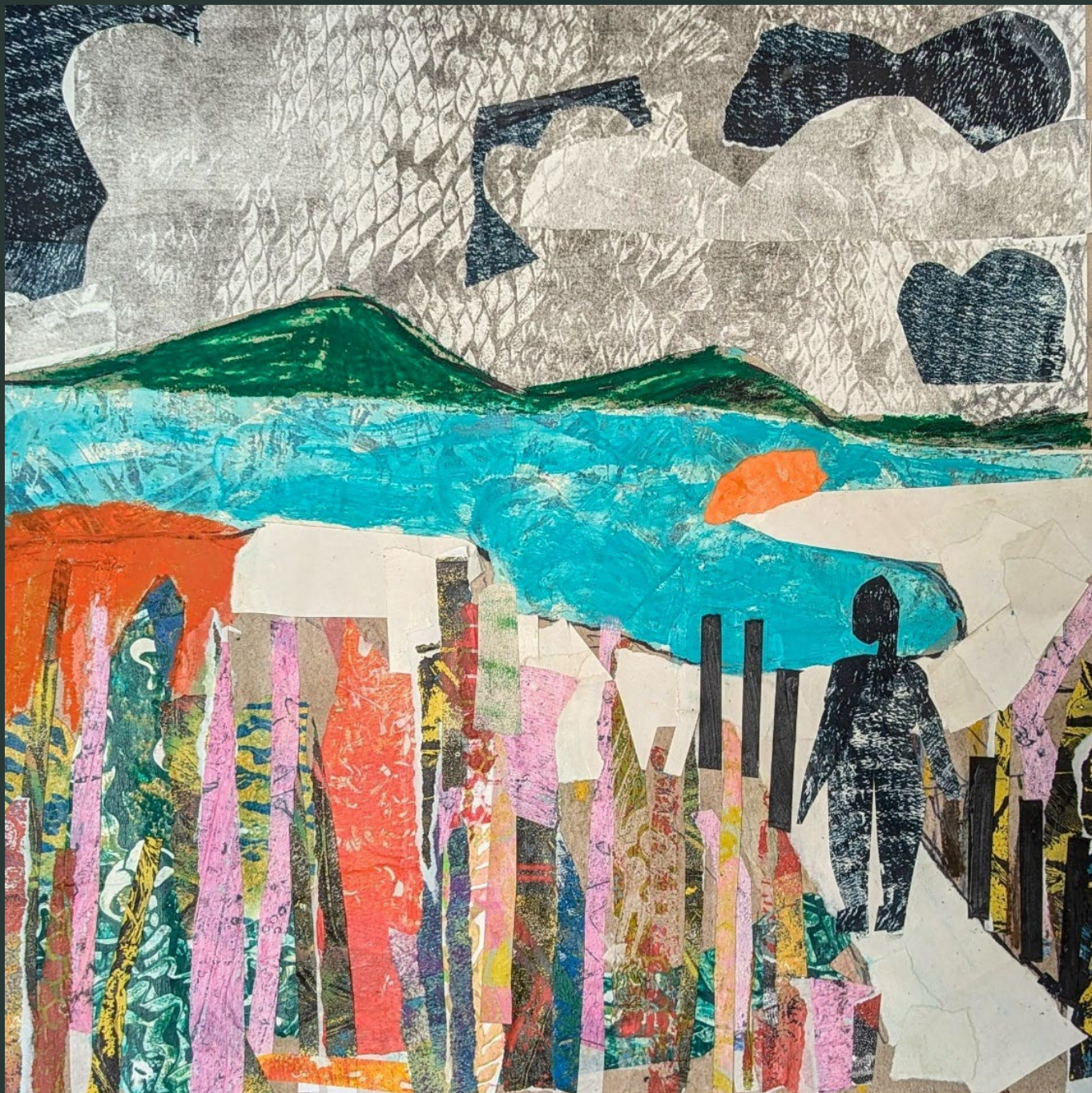
Binalup

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

My artwork depicts the arenas of my life. I regularly walk the boardwalk at Binalup, the trail at Mount Martin and along the beach with friends. I swim and kayak on the water. I've been doing this for more than four decades, three or four times a week. The beach is my therapy zone - it's a restorative, refreshing and rejuvenating place where I go to feel revitalised. It is particularly nurturing for me. The waterway is part of my playground.

I take a lot of pleasure in the artistry of nature. The granite has its own texture and colour, and our native bushland has its own unique texture, colour, and aromas. They can't be replicated anywhere else, which is why they're so valuable. We're in a biodiversity hotspot.

My collage represents the diversity of the natural environment here, which includes more than the sand and at the water's edge - it includes the microbes in the soil as well. I'm always conscious that there's teeming life within the soil I'm walking on, which is invisible but critical to the health of the coastline, the natural environment, the bushland, and the ocean.



Tricia Darling

The groyne at Emu Point, looking back to Middleton

Mixed media collage on card, 2024

This is a special spot. I love the sandiness and grassiness of the entry to the beach. In the early morning, the sun lights up all the grasses and reeds, in all different colours of greens and pinks. There are beautiful weathered old poles lining the path. Sometimes there's a storm coming in. You might have the beach all to yourself, or have other people joining. Standing on that path, you always feel different when you enter, compared to when you leave.

Sometimes my kids call it 'the lagoon'. It's actually not the most relaxing spot because there is a big channel, and a lot of shark potential. There are often dolphins there, which I love, and the water is very aqua-coloured and protected.

I love Emu Point. My grandma used to take me there when I was little - she would take me to the grassy steps and get me an ice cream. When I was at primary school, I planted a tree in a spot that has now eroded away. It was a big ceremony - we planted a tree - and then it's gone.



Bringing it all together: The Exhibition and Design Vision

The community artworks in this catalogue were exhibited at the Museum of the Great Southern between 24-27 July, 2025. 'Rising Tides: Binalup' - the landscape architecture vision for a resilient future coast - was also displayed at this exhibition. This section presents photos from the exhibition opening, and an extract from the design vision.



Rising Tides

Imagining Coastal Resilience

An exhibition of landscape architecture and community art

Museum of the Great Southern
Residency Road, Albany / Kinjarling
24 July – 27 July 2025
10 am – 4 pm daily

Supported by



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Photo: Clancy Martin



Photo: Clancy Martin

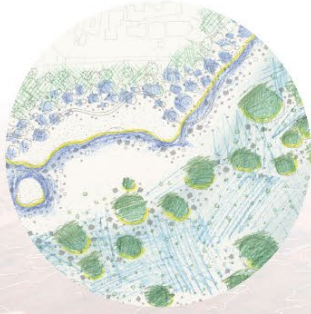


Photo: Eloise Biggs





1 Resilience Islands Amity's proposal off Emu Point creates a series of sand islands and seagrass meadows, working to mitigate erosion and storm surge to the vulnerable coast, restoring natural coastal resilience, and bird and aquatic habitats.



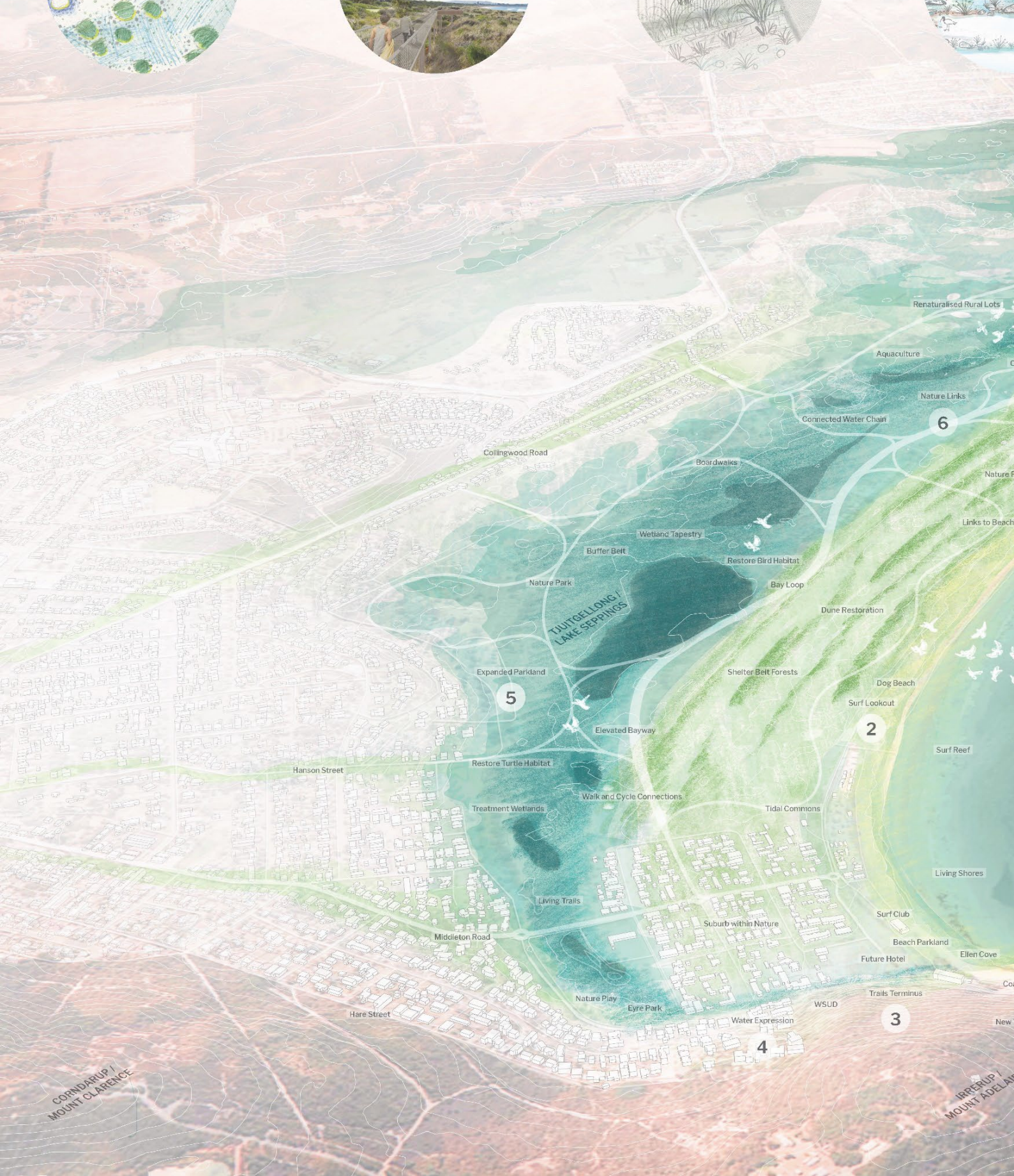
2 Beyond the Dunes Beyond the foredunes of the surf reef, Ryan proposes a surf lookout and boardwalk elevated above a restored dunal landscape. Wider, restored dunes work to stabilise, buffer and connect the coastline.



3 Binalup Terminus Where ocean meets mountain. Nestled at the foot of Irrerup, Mark's proposal creates a terminus and meeting place which connects Binalup to the expanded and activated network of walkways and trails.



4 Flow Again Megar wetland parkland that flows once again in connect Eyre Park to freshwater to salt, s Holding the rains, st



CORNDARUP / MOUNT CLARENCE

IRRERUP / MOUNT ADELAIDE

5

2

3

6

TUITOELLONG / LAKE SEPPIRES

Collingwood Road

Boardwalks

Connected Water Chain

Renaturalised Rural Lots

Aquaculture

Nature Links

Nature F

Links to Beach

Wetland Tapestry

Restore Bird Habitat

Buffer Belt

Bay Loop

Nature Park

Dune Restoration

Shelter Belt Forests

Dog Beach

Surf Lookout

Surf Reef

Hanson Street

Restore Turtle Habitat

Walk and Cycle Connections

Tidal Commons

Treatment Wetlands

Living Shores

Living Trails

Suburb within Nature

Surf Club

Beach Parkland

Middleton Road

Future Hotel

Ellen Cove

Hare Street

Nature Play

Eyre Park

Water Expression

Trails Terminus

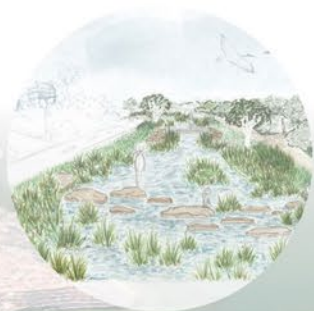
WSUD

's proposal is for a
 at allows freshwater
 into Binalup. Swales
 to Ellen Cove,
 suburb with coast.
 opping the floods.

5 Widening Wetlands Embracing
 inundation as an opportunity for play, Avril
 expands the Tjuitgellong / Lake Seppings
 wetland fabric by creating a floodable
 zone and nature parkland that soaks and
 dries with the seasons.

6 Blue Mallee Walk A coastal link raised
 above the trees, Ruth's proposal connects
 through the coastlines, dunes and
 wetlands of Binalup with a pedestrian
 network that allows nature to flourish and
 bustle below.

7 Stillwater Grove A meeting place
 between the saltmarsh. Nestled near
 an estuary link along Purriyup, Kenji
 proposes a light-touch meeting place
 for people to gather, bird watch and
 experience nature.



Rising Tides Binalup looks ahead
 to a future of rising tides. This
 vision is one of care and optimism,
 where the bays, dunes, and
 waters of Binalup connect again
 and flourish. As we gathered in
 Albany for this project on a cold
 July morning, we were 'kissed by
 the sun' – the Menang Noongar
 translation of Binalup. Here,
 we were honoured to yarn with
 Merningar Barduk Elder Lynette
 Knapp, her son Dion Cummings,
 and Professor Stephen Hopper.
 They spoke of the Kaart and the
 Bilya – the Ocbil and the Yodfel –
 the mountain and head of the land;
 the waters and givers of life. These
 drawings offer visions of a future
 that allows the water and land to
 breathe and expand. Rewilding
 a connected water system and
 ecosystem for people, animals,
 and plants. Over the decades, a
 continuous, uninterrupted nature
 park emerges.

**Super Natural and UWA School of
 Design.** Daniel Jan Martin,
 Liam Mouritz and Sofie Nielsen,
 with UWA landscape architecture
 students Amity Crappsley-Pope,
 Ryan Munyard, Mark Patrick Tay,
 Megan Dease, Avril Stewart,
 Ruth Mengler and Kenjie Ben.



Photo: Daniel Jan Martin





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