



President's Message

2025 was an opportunity for the Friends of Hazelhurst to reflect on our 30th Anniversary and the 25th Anniversary of the Gallery. In 1995 our group was launched to support the idea of a regional gallery and art centre. We are still all about supporting the gallery.

Throughout the gallery's history, members who have actively supported the Friends of Hazelhurst have been the driving force behind its success. They've not only made it a great organisation but have also had the chance to grow personally. It's truly wonderful!

Come explore Hazelhurst and discover our 30 year impact! It started with the pavers, even before the gallery was built. Now they are a lasting memorial.

We've made the Regional Gallery a more welcoming space for visitors by providing the glass doors and folding stools. Look at the sculptures in the gardens, such as *Lass*, *Transit*, and *Classic Man* (our 2025 gift!). The students in classes constantly use the work tables we updated three years ago, and in the cottage, the Friends gifted the artwork *illumination* and the bedroom furniture, increasing comfort for visitors an Artist in residence.

Thank you to every member who has volunteered over our 30 year history. You have generously given your most precious resource, your time, to Hazelhurst, and your impact is immeasurable. Thank you for your passion, your skills, and for helping us to bring Hazelhurst to life.

Thank you also to members who have supported our events and programs. Your backing is valued.

Friends of Hazelhurst are excited about the future and how we're evolving in this changing world. We'd love for you to join us on this journey. Where better to be than in a place where you're happy and fulfilled?

Robyn Jordan
President Friends of Hazelhurst
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Annual Report 2025.

Welcome to the Annual report of the Friends of Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Art Centre Inc. ABN. 79410982807, Registered Charity (hereinafter referred to as "FOH").

The Committee

The following FOH members were elected to the committee at the AGM in February 2025.

Executive Committee

President	Robyn Jordan
Vice president	Marta Gajewski-Cichoca
Treasurer	Miriam Pulgar
Secretary	Tony Buckley
Membership Coordinator	David Coles

General Committee

Pavers	Natalie O'Connor
Website/ Newsletter /SM	Anne Tyrrell
Social media	Nyssa Mullooly
Event manager	Karen O'Toole
Member	Virginia Handel
Member	Sherie Skaines

The committee met formally 10 times after the February AGM.

The 2026 AGM is to be held Tuesday, February 17th at 6 pm in the Theatrette at Hazelhurst Gallery.

Our purpose is to support, stimulate, and sustain public interest in Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Arts Centre, Cottage and Gardens. We aim to promote the arts in the Sutherland Shire and Southern Sydney region. Funds raised support projects for the gallery and help ensure the Cottage and Gardens are preserved for community use.

In 2025, the environment at Hazelhurst continued to change. Our main challenge now is to foster committee and event participation for members while expanding our membership. We must address these issues urgently to secure our future.

Financial

Our funds support the gallery, either in gallery programs and projects or in art awards such as HSC awards and Art on Paper. We also have the usual expenses associate with administration.

Thank you to Myriam Pulgar, our hard working treasurer for all her excellent work.

It is crucial to acknowledge that a decline in membership numbers has concurrently resulted in a reduction in our income. Most of our revenue is derived from membership fees. So, our revenue has dropped noticeably in the last 2 years.

The Audit of our 2025 finances will be available at the AGM.

Secretary

The position of secretary within a volunteer organization presents significant challenges. The secretary is a pivotal member of the leadership team and a valuable contributor to the organization's success. Tony Buckley has managed this position in an expert manner.

Membership

Numbers continued to decline in 2025. There has been a 50% decline from the beginning of 2024 which, as noted before, is related to the discontinuation of the previous discount for classes.

David Coles, our membership manager, monitors renewals and reminders and manages the database. He works closely with the gallery administration team. Thank you to the Visitor Services team from the Gallery who assist in this operation.

Events

FOH continues to offer attractive benefits and opportunities to members. We appreciate Karen O'Toole and the committee's efforts in bringing these events to you in 2025.

Current Hazelhurst Board Chair, Byron Hurst, has been integral in presenting our events. Byron has been involved with Hazelhurst since its inception and is a member of the friends. He is an ex-shire councillor and a respected art educator. Byron's talks are always super informative and engaging.

We presented seven events in 2025 with over 470 attendees. These comprised 4 artztalks, 2 excursions and the friends on show opening event.

FOH on Show

This annual exhibition showcases the varied talents of the members of FOH. Committee members, led by Anne Tyrrell, organised the exhibition and opening event.

Newsletters, e news, Mail out

Anne Tyrrell has continued to manage our communication. She collaborates closely with the Committee to achieve this goal.

Pavers

Leave your mark has continued to have strong support. Natalie O Connor has managed this program for us. A paver is a great way to memorialise oneself or someone else.

Social media

Nyssa Mullooly has improved our place in social media, increasing both followers and interaction with their social media pages.

Sanctuary Catalogue

We're grateful to Juliana Bishop, member, for writing the chapter in the Sanctuary publication that delves into the history of FOH!

Moving Forward

Our most significant challenge in 2026 lies in sustaining our activities following the substantial reduction in income resulting from the decline in membership numbers.

Apart from continuing to promote membership, a review of activities and expenditure is of prime importance.

The committee seeks to hear your voice both at the AGM and during the year.