

# THE LOCKYER & SOMERSET INDEPENDENT

Keeping the community in community newspapers

**FREE**

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## TOOGOOLOWAH TALKS ART

SOMERSET residents met with artists and curators at The Condensery in Toogoolawah, where Dr Karike Ashworth performed Dr Brave Girl and the Extraordinary Hooping Loop. **PAGE 8**

PHOTO: JIM FILMER - FILMERTOGRAPHY

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Special guest speakers Dr Louise R Mayhew, Dr Alexandra Lawson and Dr Karike Ashworth.



Dr Karike Ashworth put on a special show as her artistic persona Brave Girl to wrap up the evening.  
PHOTO: JIM FILMER - FILMTOGRAPHY



Art gallery goers enjoying Dr Karike Ashworth's work on show in the bomb shelter.

## Condensery talks censorship

BY JACOB HAYDEN

SOMERSET Regional Art Gallery The Condensery, Toogoolawah, opened its doors to art lovers on Saturday October 29 for an afternoon of conversation. The event, appropriate-

ly titled 'Let's Talk About Art' invited the following special guest speakers to discuss art in the modern world: Alexandra Lawson Gallery, Toowoomba director and academic Dr Alexandra Lawson, University of Southern Queensland School

of Creative Arts art historian, writer, editor and creative mentor Dr Louise R Mayhew and artist and academic Dr Karike Ashworth, along with Condensery curator Rachel Arndt.

For Dr Ashworth, the event brought a recent controversy

full circle.

In early September, Somerset Regional Council moved to cancel the Brave Girl: The Warrior exhibit at The Condensery before reversing the decision the following week.

"It was important for us, after they reversed the

decision, to have a talk and get it out into the open in a responsible, productive way and to celebrate together," Dr Ashworth said.

Dr Ashworth said censorship disrespects the expertise of artists, curators and gallerists who make the decisions.

"Art is meant to be a safe place to ask questions, and it's not always safe as we've seen," she said.

"The lesson here is we need to be talking more to each other and making more connections between the community and the artists."

## Come together and get connection at Community Connections

COMMUNITY groups and businesses are invited to a night of networking and mutual support at Community Connections night in Gattton on November 17.

Spirit of the Valley Events Inc president Idell Wadley said they started Community Connections in

2018.

"I saw a need for the all the different sectors of the community to be able to come together, and in one night talk about all the different things that were happening within our community," she said.

"This is a really great chance if you're

a small business, or a large business, to come along and find out what's happening in the community and how you might like to be involved.

"If you're a community group, find out what services and support are available for you and to network with other

community groups.

"If you're a resident come and find out what's happening in the community for 2023.

"We also invite guest speakers so that local businesses and community groups can gain advice such as grant writing, insurance, what services

are available."

Spirit of the Valley Events Inc will also announce their upcoming calendar of events and a new project.

"This year is especially exciting because we are about to make some very big announcements about changes for Spirit of the Valley Events and

an incredible new project we're working on for early 2023," Mrs Wadley said.

Community Connections will be held at the Gattton Shire Hall from 6pm on Thursday November 17.

Visit Spirit of the Valley Events Inc Facebook page or contact 0448326246 for more details.



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