



MACS Artist Profile: **Natasha Kalenjuk.**

As an artist it is sometimes difficult to let go of a finished work as some pieces can take years to create and each piece contains a lifetime of learning the many different techniques. Therefore, two of my favourite ways to share my creativity with others is to exhibit at art competitions and also to donate them to groups where many people will benefit.

I have exhibited in Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Moruya and Narooma and there have always been interesting people with a shared passion to meet and to share their new tips and tricks to improve my next project.

As many groups need assistance with funding for many worthy causes, the one way I've been able to assist the community is by donating a relevant art piece. My first donation was in 2007 to a Rotary Group in Canberra, where they raised much need funds for community projects from many of my paintings. Then, to a horse club, a dressage foundation, where a special event was held. The first painting I have donated to Montague Art & Craft helped raise funds for a website and the second one was to raffle at a MACS Open Easter Exhibition.



A new donation that I am really pleased to share with you, is now on display at the Narooma Visitors Information Centre. Her name is "Grace" and she was painted on a surfboard using an airbrush and metallic paints and so is more suitable as a decorative item, as I am new to painting surfboards.



To me, the surf board represents the lifestyle and community spirit of Narooma where, like riding the waves of life, it can be a lot smoother if you have a flotation device to make the journey uplifting and balanced, just as it is when our community comes together and helps one another out, because they can. The turtle holds a meaning of wisdom and endurance to which I have given a painted finish similar to a mother of pearl shell, to represent the change to a fullness of life. I hope you enjoy her as much as I have enjoyed painting "Grace".

For your chance to win "Grace", the turtle on a surfboard, raffle tickets can be purchased at the Narooma Visitor Information Centre, where "Grace" is on display, awaiting a new home. Raised funds go to Montague Art & Craft Society, a non-profit community group.

