

ARTSNATIONAL Narrabri 2026



ARTS TALKS

Entertaining & Educational

held in Cinema 1
The Crossing Theatre
Narrabri
on Mondays at 7pm
Arrivals from 6.30pm



2026 Memberships

Membership \$180 per person.
Membership entitles the holder to
attend 7 listed lectures held by
ArtsNational Narrabri.
Non transferable.



Payment Options: TryBooking QR Code,
Direct Deposit, Cheque, Cash or Eftpos

Direct Deposit to: ADFAS Narrabri & Northwest Inc.
BSB 032-558 Account 122011
Ref: Your name

Members who join by the first lecture (9 March) will receive
a complimentary visitors ticket.

Visitor tickets \$35 online or \$40 at the door
High School students 18yrs and under – \$10
Primary School students 12yrs and under – Free



Connect
with us



What is ArtsNational?

We offer superbly illustrated, informative and entertaining lecture-style presentations on diverse arts related topics delivered by national and international speakers.

Mingle with like-minded people and the presenter after each event and continue the conversation over drinks and canapés in our fabulous Crossing Theatre.

Who are our lecturers?

They are recognised experts, passionate in their fields of interest and drawn from a variety of professional backgrounds.

ArtsNational Narrabri is part of an Australia wide non-profit organisation of 38 societies run by volunteers.

Why join ArtsNational?

Anyone who has an interest in the arts is welcome to join us and become a member.

Visitors are also most welcome to come along to occasional lectures of your choice. Separate QR links will be set up for visitor tickets for each lecture, available through our e-newsletter, FB and Instagram.

Enquiries to

Fiona Groeneveld 0429 923 022
or email narrabri@artsnational.au

To be added to our email list contact

adfasnarrabri@gmail.com

ArtsNational Narrabri

would like to thank the
Narrabri Shire Council
and The Crossing Theatre
for their continued support.



Great Railway Stations

If you think of St Pancras International or New York's Grand Central Station, you imagine long romantic journeys. You know they are special places promising excitement and adventure, and there are dozens of other glorious stations all over the world. This talk explores some of the most evocative and splendid railway stations. We look at the magnificence of station architecture and engineering. A journey which is lavish, colourful and fun, evoking the spirit of romance and adventure.

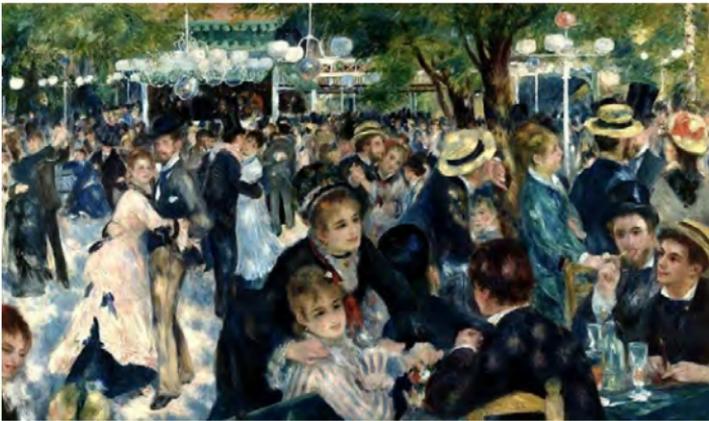


A Londoner with a contagious enthusiasm for art and architecture, Ian Swankie is an official guide at Tate Modern, Tate Britain, Guildhall Art Gallery and St Paul's Cathedral. He is also a freelance London tour guide.

Monday 9 March
Ian Swankie

New Visions Paris & Impressionism

During Napoleon III's reign, Paris underwent an extraordinary transformation. Medieval neighbourhoods were cleared making way for wide boulevards, elegant apartment blocks, parks, and monumental public buildings that reshaped the landscape and social fabric. Theatres, cafés, and entertainment venues flourished. The dynamics inspired the Impressionists, who were keen to capture the fleeting sensations of the modern capital. By examining works by artists including Manet, Renoir, and Caillebotte, we will discover how their radical techniques reflect the attractions and complexities of modern Parisian society.



Since completing an MA at University College London in the History of Art, Joanne Rhymer's areas of specialism include 19th-century and early 20th-century French art, and her interests include the visual skills involved in the sustained viewing of paintings.

Monday 11 May
Joanne Rhymer

Dogs in Australian Art

The story of Australian art is incomplete without its wonderful canine stars. Learn their names and the stories heralded by artists since early colonial times. The deep connections Indigenous Australians have with the dingo, illustrated in cave paintings, on barks and ceremonial objects, is where it all began. Australians love their dogs - with nearly 3.5 million dogs registered, we are said to have one of the highest rates of dog ownership in the world. This talk will conclude with some of our local talented artists own work – all featuring our legendary best friends.



Steven Miller was the head of the National Art Archive at the Art Gallery of New South Wales from 2009 to 2023. He has worked in commercial and public galleries since the late 1980s and has published widely on art.

Monday 15 June
Steven Miller

Is this the real life?

When Lucy ventures through the wardrobe into Narnia; when Harry Potter opens his acceptance letter; and when Neo takes the red pill from Morpheus in *The Matrix*; they all discover that the worlds they thought they knew are only part of the truth. From Plato onwards, writers and artists have been inspired to push beyond the everyday and to create other worlds that inspire our imaginations.



Mary Sharp is an experienced broadcaster and teacher with particular expertise in literature and drama. She has worked as a producer and commissioning editor for BBC Radio 4, a teacher and director of sixth form, and now runs her company 'Opening Up Literature'.

Monday 13 July
Mary Sharp

A Photographic Odyssey

On Ernest Shackleton's third Antarctic expedition in 1914, his ship the *Endurance* was trapped, eventually crushed in pack ice. Shackleton sailed with five companions over 800 miles to South Georgia, returning over three months later to rescue his stranded crew. Australian Frank Hurley was the expedition's official photographer. His images capture with great artistry the amazing landscapes within which this remarkable human drama unfolded. This talk illustrates Hurley's great talent behind the lens, in the first flush of human contact when the Antarctic remained essentially 'terra incognita'.



Born on the Isles of Scilly and educated at Truro School, Cornwall and Birmingham University, Mark Cottle has enjoyed a career in education and training at home and abroad, lecturing at colleges and universities on medieval, Tudor, and Anglo Saxon England.

Monday 17 August
Mark Cottle

Isabella Bird

This talk traces the story of the intrepid Isabella Bird, who set out to see the world and brought glimpses of it back to her readership at home. Isabella Bird's written accounts of her globetrotting adventures from the 1850s offer insights into the challenges faced by women travellers in the Victorian period as well as the growth of travel and tourism that helped to make the world a smaller place.



Professor Conte-Helm holds a BA in History of Art and an MA in Asian Art. She has held senior academic positions at various UK universities, is widely published and has lectured throughout the UK and abroad.

Monday 14 September
Marie Conte-Helm

Lee Miller's War

Lee Miller is thought to have been the only woman combat photographer with the allied infantry in Europe during World War II. This lecture presents her war photojournalism, from shortly after D Day in Normandy through to the post war traumas of Austria and Hungary.



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For the past 45 years, Antony Penrose has conserved and disseminated the work of his parents, Lee Miller and Roland Penrose. With his daughter Ami he is the co-director of The Lee Miller Archives and The Penrose Collection at Farley Farm House in Sussex.

Monday 19 October
Antony Penrose



ARTSNATIONAL YOUNG ARTS

Narrabri

recipient 2025

'Literally Illustrating'

Four Narrabri High School HCS art students attended a 2-day masterclass run by local artist and published children's book illustrator Graeme Compton.

. Young Arts

We are proudly part of the ArtsNational Young Arts program which seeks to encourage, support and sustain budding talent within our local community.

Each year we approach the younger generation through schools and community groups connected to the arts and offer support with an annual Young Arts Award.

We are looking forward to continuing the tradition which our members have so generously supported for more than 30 years.

WHAT WE DO GOES BEYOND THE ARTS

Make new friends.
Discover fascinating topics.
Monthly arts talks with renowned speakers.



www.artsnational.au

Australian Decorative & Fine Arts Society (ADFAS)
Narrabri & North West District Inc
ABN 17 901 195 053

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The Arts Society, UK

