

BONNIE VALE : ART, PHOTOS & ORAL HISTORIES

An exhibition and event at Wollongong City Library

Artist Tina Antico approached the library about exhibiting her textile artworks based on photographs of cabins at Bonnie Vale in Royal National Park.

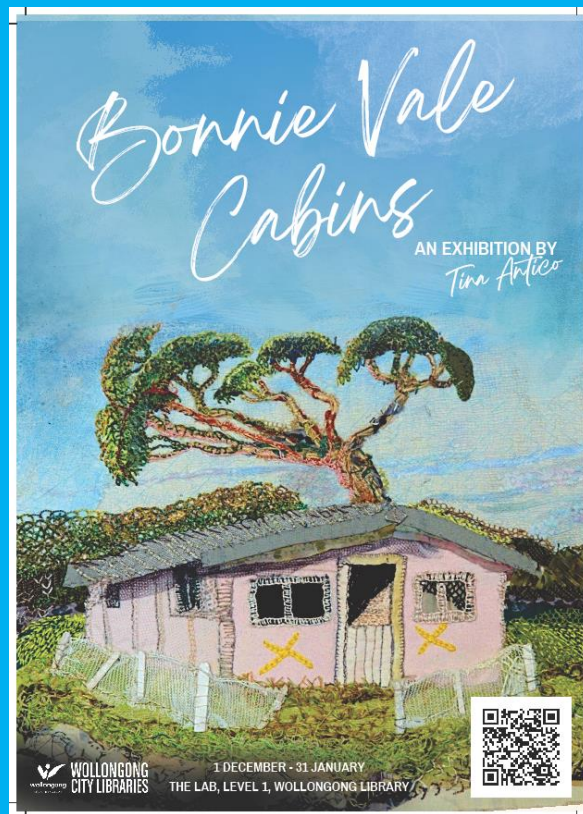
Some were still standing, others have been demolished.



The library had some wonderful photos from the 1950s of the Bonnie Vale cabin community.



An exhibition was mounted using our reusable frames with Tina's artwork and photos from the library collection.



WOLLONGONG | CITY OF INNOVATION

The library had a collection of oral histories with people from the Bonnie Vale community as audio files hosted on our Illawarra Stories website. They can be downloaded or streamed. We linked these via QR codes displayed in the exhibition.



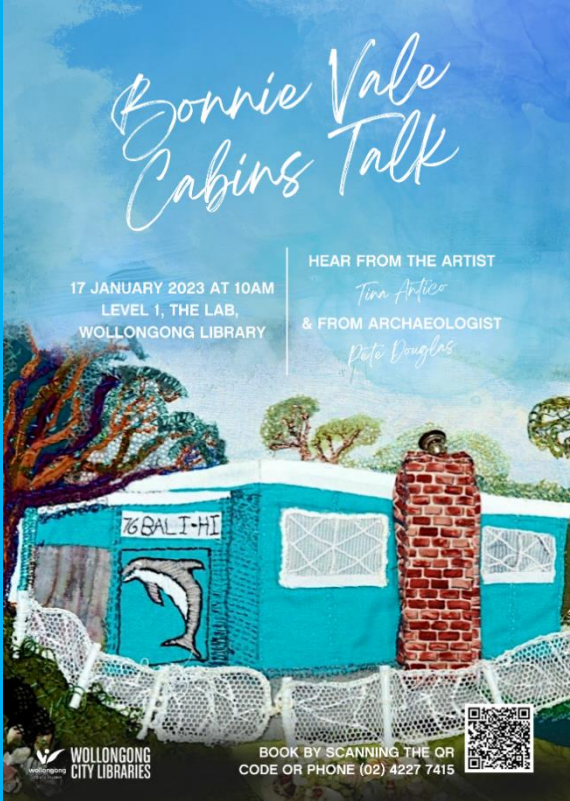
Shacks of the Royal National Park



Jennifer Rankine
saw the exhibition
and it prompted
memories of her
holidays at
Bonnie Vale.

Jennifer participated in an oral history interview and donated more photos to the library collection.





We organised an event to celebrate the exhibition. We invited Tina the artist to talk about her artworks, an Aboriginal Elder to talk about the land and an archaeologist to talk about the middens found in the park.

Unfortunately, the Elder was unable to attend but was happy for the archaeologist, Pete Douglas to speak about Aboriginal history in the area.



The talk was held in the room where the exhibition was displayed. The event was well attended and received by interested members of the public and appreciated by oral history participants.



The exhibition and talk brought together a local artist, archaeologist, images and oral histories from the library's collection in an engaging cultural event.

