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Client artwork featured at Supreme Court event

In December 2025 eight clients presented their artwork for sale at the Supreme Court of Victoria's end of year event. Excitingly, nearly all pieces were sold via a silent auction.

Over 250 people from across the Supreme Court attended the event, and all Funds in Court staff were thrilled to see the talents of our clients being showcased once again.

Congratulations to the artists Alex, Baden, Gurrenah, Jess, Luke, Nathan, Robert and Sula.



From left: Nathan's T-shirts and tea towels, Baden's 'Summer Time' painting, Alex's 'Persistence At All Costs' painting, Robert's 'Mountains of Kakadu' painting and Jess's 'Slippery snail' sculpture.

Funds in Court (FIC) acknowledges the people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land and waterways upon which this newsletter was produced.

FIC acknowledges and pays respect to ancestors of this country, Elders, knowledge holders and leaders – past and present. FIC extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Client artwork featured at Supreme Court event (continued)



The person who bought Baden's 'Summer Time' painting will enjoy Baden's tribute to "happy days in the sun and holidays at the beach." Baden plans to donate the proceeds of the sale to the Royal Children's Hospital.



Alex's 'Persistence At All Costs' painting is about "evolving, overcoming catastrophic events and coming to terms with the new you that comes out the other side." You can see another of Alex's artworks on page 6 of this newsletter.



Sula's 'Untitled' painting depicts an evocative moonlit sea. Sula regularly displays and sells his art, saying "I really love doing art. It makes me feel happy. I'm learning to do something new, instead of the same thing every time."



From left: Luke's 'Untitled' painting, Gurrenah's 'Perfection' painting and Sula's 'Untitled' painting.

Client artwork featured at Supreme Court event (continued)



Sadly, Robert passed away shortly after selling his 'Mountains of Kakadu' painting. Robert was passionate about sharing his art so it could bring other people joy. He loved the meditative process of painting and was a valued Embrace contributor. He will be greatly missed.



Luke's 'Untitled' painting includes a moody mix of blacks, blues and green with subtle pops of pink. Luke enjoys creating pieces that are "open to interpretation by the person looking at the piece." Luke has worked with his occupational therapist and support worker to explore how he could create paintings completely independently.



Jess's 'Slippery snail' sculpture is made out of concrete, mosaic tiles and grout. "It was quite difficult to turn and place the mosaics," says Jess, but the end result clearly shows her dedication and precision.



Gurrenah displayed his 'Perfection' painting at Embrace in March 2025. "I love art as it gives me the access to freedom and it connects me to my culture," says Gurrenah.



Nathan offered a range of T-shirts and tea towels printed with his designs. Nathan uses his own photographs, often editing them and adding additional design elements, before printing the final products.

Save money on prescription medicine

What is the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme?

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) helps make many prescription medicines cheaper. Many prescription medicines are covered by the PBS.

What is the PBS Safety Net?

If you spend a lot of money on PBS medicines, there is a safety net. The PBS Safety Net helps you pay less for medicines after you have paid a certain amount of money in a calendar year.

This amount of money is called the threshold. When you have spent enough money in one calendar year to reach the threshold, you can access the PBS Safety Net.

For 2026, the threshold is:

- \$277.20 for concession card holders
- \$1,748.20 for general patients.

Once you reach the threshold, you can apply for a PBS Safety Net card. Once you have this card, your PBS medicines will be cheaper.

How do you get cheaper medicine?

Keep track of how much you spend

You need to keep track of how much money you spend on PBS medicines. Your pharmacist can help.

There is a form on the Services Australia website to keep track of your spending. This form is called [PBS/RPBS Safety Net prescription record form and application for a Safety Net card form](#).

Fill in the form and print it out. Give it to the pharmacist every time you buy prescription medicine.

If you always use the same pharmacy, they may be able to keep track of your spending for you in their systems. Talk to your pharmacist about this.

Get a PBS Safety Net card

When you have reached the PBS Safety Net threshold, you will get a PBS Safety Net card. Your pharmacist will keep the form you have been using to keep track of your spending. They will give you a PBS Safety Net card in return.

Show your PBS Safety Net card to the pharmacist every time you buy prescription medicine.

How much cheaper will your PBS medicine be?

When you show your PBS Safety Net card, your PBS medicine will:

- be free if you are a concession card holder
- cost up to \$7.70 for general patients.

Save money on prescription medicine (continued)

If you have a choice between different brands of medicine, they may have different prices. If you choose the more expensive brand it may cost you more.

Can you reach the threshold sooner as a family?

Yes.

You can list members of your family on the form that keeps track of your spending. A family can be:

- a couple married and not separated
- a couple in a de facto relationship with or without dependent children
- a single person with dependent children.

A 'dependent child' is someone who is under 16 or a full-time student under 25, and attends school, college or university, and gets substantial financial support.

Each member of your family should give the pharmacist the form that keeps track of your spending every time they buy prescription medicine.

When your family has reached the PBS Safety Net threshold, you will get a PBS Safety Net card.

Can you get a PBS Safety Net card for other people in your family?

Yes.

You can get extra cards for other members of your family. You need to fill in a form on the Services Australia website. The form is called [PBS Safety Net replacement or supplementary card application](#).

Post the completed form to Services Australia. They will then post out the extra cards.

Can you get a refund if you reached the threshold and did not know?

Possibly.

You may be able to get a refund if you spend over the threshold before you get a PBS Safety Net card.

To get a refund, complete the form on the Services Australia website. The form is called [Patient claim for refund Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme \(PBS\) form](#).

You can use this form to claim a refund if you didn't show your Medicare card or concession card when you bought medicine at the pharmacy, or spent over your yearly PBS Safety Net threshold.

You will need to provide proof of payment with this form.

How long does the PBS Safety Net card last?

When you get a PBS Safety Net card, it will last until 31 December that year. The PBS Safety Net resets on 1 January every year.

You need to fill in a new copy of the form to keep track of how much you spend each year.

Alex's artwork 'Missing'

After noticing a decline in a local bird population, talented artist and Funds in Court client Alex put brush to canvas to create 'Missing'.

This watercolour painting features a mated pair of beautiful gang-gang cockatoos. They are surrounded by singed pieces of paper covered with information about the birds. Alex started to paint this after noticing fewer gang-gangs in their backyard in the Macedon Ranges.



Alex's artwork 'Missing' (continued)

The species is currently listed as endangered, with habitat destruction and climate change the main threats.

Alex says, "The whole reason why the hollow around the piece is the burnt paper is because the 2019–2020 bushfires summer was one of the reasons that they became endangered, because of how we're having longer and much harsher bushfire seasons."

Gang-gangs nest in hollows in old-growth trees. Tree numbers are declining, and invasive species are taking over some of the remaining hollows.

Alex adds, "I wanted to increase awareness of our unique biodiversity being threatened, by climate change, by urbanisation, and how with inaction this decline is going to continue."



Alex with their artwork at Embrace 2025.

But Alex also wants to give the viewer hope. "A huge part of this piece is that we are viewing the gang-gangs from the inside of a nesting hollow as nestlings. You're viewing your parents because it's a mated pair of gang-gangs. Even though it's a very deep and angsty piece there is still hope held within it."

Alex wants everyone to know "things are happening that are going to hopefully help the gang-gangs and our biodiversity; we just need to be aware of it and advocate for it."

'Missing' won second prize in the watercolour division of the Kyneton Show. A lot of people told Alex it was one of their favourite pieces.

You can see another of Alex's artworks, 'Persistence at All Costs', on page 2 in our story on the artwork featured at the Supreme Court's end of year gathering.

Congratulations on this moving piece Alex.

Take part in Embrace 2027

We invite all clients to take part in Embrace in the first half of 2027. Clients can showcase their talents by displaying artwork or performing a song, dance or poetry reading on stage.

You can watch videos and read about past Embrace events at fundsincourt.vic.gov.au/about-us-events/embrace/.

If you want to take part or have any questions, please call us on 1300 039 390 or email requests@fundsincourt.vic.gov.au.

Piloting The Smooth Sailing After Scams Adjustment Program

We are piloting the Smooth Sailing After Scams adjustment program to help people who have been scammed adjust to the impacts of the scam.

Who are we looking for?

If you have been scammed, are struggling to adjust to its impacts, and are seeking further support to help you through this experience, we invite you to participate in this new program for scam survivors.

What does the study involve?

The Smooth Sailing After Scams program involves 10 sessions, which will be conducted as a small group or one-on-one. This will be delivered in-person (e.g., Notting Hill, Victoria) or online. The following topics will be covered: scams, finances, emotions, repairing relationships and lifestyle.

There will be no out of pocket charge for taking part in the program; however, this may be paid through Medicare or other funding organisations (e.g., TAC, NDIS).

Interested?

Contact us for further information at:
cyberability@monash.edu

For more information about the project, visit:
<https://cyberability.org.au/>

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