

# Media Release

HON **Ben Franklin** MLC

Parliamentary Secretary for Renewable Energy and Northern NSW



Friday, 15 February 2019

## **MORE SUPPORT FOR BYRON BAY ARTISTS**

Byron Bay's Lone Goat Gallery will be able to provide improved support for local artists with \$106,946 in NSW Government funding announced today.

Nationals Parliamentary Secretary for Northern NSW Ben Franklin joined with Lone Goat Gallery artists and Gallerist Andrew McDonald to make the funding announcement today.

Mr Franklin said the funding will go towards improving the quality of the gallery which will provide enhanced support for local artists.

"The Northern Rivers, particularly here in Byron Bay is the arts and cultural hub for NSW," Mr Franklin said.

"I want to ensure we can provide the best support for our local artists, and that is what the funding announced today will do.

"The Lone Goat Galley is the Byron Shire's only community gallery, and not only supports the work of local artists, but is a much love and valued community asset.

"This funding will assist in refurbishing the gallery to reflect the professional ambitions of local artists and increase functionality at the gallery.

"The upgrades will include new fittings, fixtures, signs and operational equipment.

Gallerist Andrew McDonald said "Lone Goat Gallery has grown rapidly over the last two years, and is experiencing record visitation and interest. Visual arts in the region is certainly flourishing right now, and the funding will enable the gallery to improve presentation to best practice standards".

The funding is part of the NSW Government's Stronger Country Community Fund.

### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Ben Franklin - 0407 011 030