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## **Last days to see *Graham* at Latrobe Regional Gallery**

*Graham*, a sculptural work commissioned by the Transport Accident Commission, will finish his two-month stint at Latrobe Regional Gallery on Sunday. Designed to explore what we might look like if our bodies were built to survive on our roads, *Graham* combines art, medical science and road safety.

Latrobe City Council's mayor, Councillor Kellie O'Callaghan said more than 1000 visitors, including representatives from 12 schools, four school groups and two major VicRoads groups had taken the time to visit *Graham*.

"Council is extremely pleased with the amount of people that have visited *Graham* during his tenure at Latrobe Regional Gallery. This lifelike work really packs a punch and he is a sober reminder of just how vulnerable we really are," Cr O'Callaghan said.

*Graham* was created by Melbourne-based artist Patricia Piccinini, in collaboration with Royal Melbourne Hospital trauma surgeon Christian Kenfield and Monash University Accident Research Centre crash investigation expert Dr David Logan.

Visitors to the gallery can also tour *Oblique*, a selection of glass works, and on Saturday, 14 January *NGV Kids on Tour*, an interactive children's program, will begin.

“*NGV Kids on Tour* involves fun untutored art making activities in The Lane based on National Gallery of Victoria’s exhibitions *Atelier: Victor&Rolf for Kids* and *John Olsen: The You Beaut Country*. The program will run through until 5 February,” Cr O’Callaghan said.

“*Oblique* showcases a selection of glass works from the Victorian State Craft Collection (VSCC). The works highlight innovative techniques and combinations of processes such as sandblasting, devitrification, engraving, glass blowing, kiln forming, acid etching and frosting. It will also end on 5 February.”

LRG will then enter phase one of its \$1.1 million refurbishment and close from 6 February.

Cr O’Callaghan said during the closure of the gallery, art programs would still be held at one of Council’s other sites, with three already scheduled at the new Moe Library and Service Centre.

“Family program *Art Cart* will be held on Tuesdays, 14 to 28 February from 11am to noon, for families with children aged three to six years. These activities are based on the storybook of the day,” Cr O’Callaghan said.

“*Art After School* will be held on Tuesdays from 21 February to 28 March from 4.30pm to 6pm for children aged seven to 12 years. This program aims to encourage development and expansion of creative skills.

“*For the Love of Typo* is a short Masterclass to create a hand written artwork on Wednesday, 15 February from 5.30pm to 7pm. Aimed at youth and adults, the class encourages participants to challenge themselves by exploring a variety of calligraphy and typography techniques, design elements and drawing materials.”

The gallery will close for refurbishment on 6 February 2017 which are expected to be completed by mid-July 2017 in time for LRG to host two international exhibitions. Details of these will be released shortly.

The upgrades have been funded jointly by Latrobe City Council and the State Government and include changes to the external façade, increased exhibition space, specialist lighting and improvements to storage.

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