



# Twisted Gum

## NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2019

This Spring we were invaded by artists! And what great fun it was. The local arts community organized a fantastic new event: *GBART – Granite Belt Art and Craft Trail*. This was an open studios event hosted over two weekends in October. The organizers did a fabulous job, with 27 different venues around the Granite Belt open over the two-week period. There was pottery, sculpture, acrylic painting, oil painting, indigenous art, textiles, collage, photography and so much more. For further details see the GBART facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/GBARTtrail/>

At Twisted Gum Wines our very gifted daughter Emily Coelli (OK we are biased of course 😊) provided a series of watercolour workshops. They were a great success, with lots of enthusiastic budding artists enjoying the beautiful Spring weather and our lovely cellar door venue. Here are a few photos below of some happy artists displaying their new masterpieces!



## Our “Solar Shed” is finished!

Those of you who have been to our vineyard in recent months would have seen a mysterious new structure appear at the back of the open paddock between our cellar door building and our Verdelho vineyard block. This is one of those buildings that has many potential hats. It is a beautiful old-style hayshed structure, constructed with bush poles, rough sawn timber rafters and corrugated iron roof. It looks fabulous!

The main motivation for the building was to allow us to install 30kw of solar panels (the install is planned for early 2020) close to our cellar door – while avoiding the need to build some less than pretty ground mount structures. A second advantage of the shed is that the roof area allows us to capture lots of extra rainfall. We now have an impressive 270,000 litres of rainwater tank capacity across our various buildings at Twisted Gum Wines – a doubling of capacity this year alone! We had managed to survive the worst drought on record here without needing to purchase any tank water, so with double tank capacity we should now be in good shape for the many challenging years to come.



A third potential use for this shed is events. In November our eldest daughter Kate married her fiancée Matt here on the vineyard (very proud Mum and Dad 😊). We had planned to hire a marquee but when we saw how amazing our new shed looked, we changed plans and held it in our “Solar Shed” instead. It was a perfect setting. Word has since spread quickly and we are already getting enquiries from bride’s-to-be about the venue, so we might have to do some research to see if that is an option in the future.

## Why more solar?

We already have 10kw of solar installed at Twisted Gum Wines at our winery and cottage buildings and as a result we have been net exporters of electricity for many years. So why more solar you ask? Well the answer is an environmental and business no-brainer! The estimated total cost of the electricity derived from these solar panels is less than 3c/kwh, compared to the network tariff of 28c/kwh – wow! It will allow us to install air conditioning in the cellar door (a must now thanks to our warming climate) and also allow us to install fast chargers for electric vehicles too. The electric vehicle revolution has begun and we want to be able to offer fast charging to the increasing number of environmentally conscious visitors coming to our cellar door each year. The future is clean and green and affordable. How good is that? 😊

Cheers!

*Tim and Michelle Coelli*

Twisted Gum Vineyard  
2253 Eukey Rd, Ballandean QLD 4382  
Ph: 07 46841282  
Email: [info@twistedgum.com.au](mailto:info@twistedgum.com.au)

[www.twistedgum.com.au](http://www.twistedgum.com.au)