



ART WITH IMPACT COMES TO WYNYARD

From June till July, a vibrant new art exhibition with impact, celebrating art in all its forms comes to **Umami Café, Wynyard**.

“Go and Do the Same” is an exhibition by **James Perry**, an artist who uses the services of **North West Residential Support Services** (NWRSS) who works alongside professional artist **Rebecca Lavis** and part of the **Outsiders Project** initiative, a partnership between NWRSS and **Big hART**, and supported by the **Tasmanian Community Fund**. A multi-layered project of vivid colours and bold brushstrokes, *Go and Do the Same* explores the classic archetypal story of The Good Samaritan and conceptual aspects of the Bible. The exhibition features many mediums from paintings to cushions, portraits, digital art and a colouring book.

The Outsiders Project brings together artists from NW Tasmania who have disabilities and live in supported accommodation, to collaborate with professional artists. The initiative aims to build inclusion and the natural protection that comes from being known in a positive way, in your community. People on the outside of the community, who may have very limited opportunity to achieve recognition for their creative work, are helped to become more visible in a supported professional artist-led environment, and through exhibitions and showings.

“We are artists, one of us is unschooled and unsung, but what we make and what we do we don't think of as art.” said artist Rebecca Lavis. “As his collaborator, I aim to build a pathway for James to show work and interact with our community without compromising his personal practice, whilst also recognising his back story without it overshadowing our work.”

Co-artist James Perry “I have had a lot of fun and I'm really excited to share what I've been thinking about and doing with Rebecca...and that sort of thing.”

Artist James Perry is a local artist who has rediscovered a passion for art production since beginning to work with Rebecca Lavis in 2017. In this exhibition, James is illustrating the Bible, for his own pleasure and to help him understand it and share it. Rebecca Lavis is a professional visual artist whose practice has included working with people experiencing marginalisation and living on the ‘outside’ of the community. This exhibition also features a large portrait of James by Rebecca. Rebecca uses her skills to provide a space where outsider artists – who live with developmental issues – can utilise their innate potential, and their life experiences to create. Explore their work on Instagram at [@rebeccalavis](https://www.instagram.com/rebeccalavis)

The art has been developed in NWRSS's new art studios in Calder Rd. Rebecca will be offering classes which take a break from the usual ways of thinking, described as “an adventure in self-esteem, self-expression, creative thinking, communication, identity, motor skills and stress relief.” How Rebecca and James collaborate: they work, create and exhibit side by side, facilitated by Rebecca, inspired by James. Their body of work includes:

- **An exhibition** – the first stage of James's Bible Project. This is an opportunity for James to share with his community.
- **A colouring book** – James's version of the Good Samaritan story, available as part of the exhibition.
- **Digital** – A digital representation of the of James's 'Bible' to date, at the exhibition.
- **Cushions** – Featuring biblical personalities created by James – at the exhibition
- **A silkscreen collaboration** - of Adam and Eve banished from Eden

Go and Do the Same will have its official opening on **Friday 29th June at 5pm** at Umami Café, 60 Goldie Street Wynyard and will be up through July. All welcome to attend.

