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APRIL 2010 ISSUE 58

artsbark

editor's desk

Opportunities for expanding horizons, skills, and networks, seem to be the focus for the next little while. Upper Hunter TAFE Outreach is starting an introductory course *Working in Museums*, which has come about at the request of the Upper Hunter Museum of Rural Life Committee in Aberdeen, in relation to the Lake Glenbawn collection. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone interested in the collection and being part of gathering and interpreting the stories pertaining to objects. Annabelle McLoughlin is putting together a great line up of experts to bring this course to life.

The Dungog Historical Society and Museum has been successful in their application to the Powerhouse Outreach program, and will be having training in the development of a Significance Assessment for their collection later in the year. They are also currently researching practice in terms of new media, for aural histories. They plan to do a project recording stories about particular buildings and sites within the area with the people who are part of the fabric of these places. Scared Spaces in Singleton are hosting a talk by historian Brian Andrews on Lachlan Macquarie, with tea and music in the gardens.

The Dungog Chamber of Commerce are researching the needs and various ways of providing adult education opportunities in their Shire. The Gloucester community started a University of the Third Age in 2008, this is one example of how to provide for these needs, the program has been well received. The Singleton Community College has devised a program for a possible 2 year course around *Building Communities through Creative Arts*. The aim of this course is to support local emerging artists in identifying a career path and how this can work within and with, the local community. This program is dependent on funding; further planning and promotion will happen once funding has been confirmed.

Writers and performers are being asked to come forward and be part of the development of a play about 'shiftwork' starting with two writing workshops being presented by

award winning playwright PP (Pat) Cranney. Pat has been commissioned by Arts Upper Hunter to research and write the play. The Singleton Youth Venue has been running a series of performance workshops *Perform* supported by CASP 2009. There are plans afoot to work on a musical drama as the Power of Music program for this year. This will require 30-40 actors and actresses, and TANTRUM Theatre Company from Newcastle are looking to partner with the Singleton Youth Venue in the process of running auditions, rehearsing etc... Auditions are expected to be held in term 2.



Kane and Cameron at one of the *Perform* workshops. Photo courtesy of Singleton Youth Venue

The CASP (Country Arts Support Program) grants applicants can look forward to receiving notification in the next couple of weeks regarding their proposals. So we can look forward to seeing more interesting local projects in the months ahead. Information relating to activities mentioned above is all in the listings.



April

1 - 18 **22nd Muswellbrook Open Photographic Award**

The Award is an acquisitive prize with the winner receiving \$6,000. Other exhibitions on at the same time include: Muswellbrook Golf Club Centenary Celebration Exhibition, *Wood* – from the Max Watters Collection, and *Dad's in the Picture*.
Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Cnr of Bridge and Market Sts, Tuesday to Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm, Sunday 2pm – 5pm ph 6549 3880.

1-18 **2009 Archibald Prize**

Maitland Regional Gallery, 230 High St., Maitland
Gallery hours Tuesday -Sunday 10am-5pm, closed public holidays. Ph 4934 9859

1-26 **Exhibitions by Jean Buettel and Marie Laurie**

The 20/20 Retrospective exhibition is by artist Jean Buettel and the exhibition of lacework by Marie Laurie who will also launch the book she wrote with Anne Meldrum; "The Borris Lace Collection, Irish Needle Lace". Gloucester Gallery, Denison St., Gloucester. Open 10am -4pm Fri, Sat, Sun. For details please call Leanne 0428 508704 or 02 6558 3157.

3 **Top Draw Exhibition**

This exhibition features works from: Robyn & Eric Werkhoven, Christine Pike, Bernie Meyers, Jane Richens, Donna Cavanaugh, Sherrel Flack & Dawn Thompson. Will be open all day 3rd. Runs until 21st. Gresford Gallery, Therese Doyle Community Hall, Park St, Gresford. Open Saturdays 9:30 to 11:30am or by appointment. Phone 0407 290 293.

3 **Maureen O'Brien Concert**

Maureen is a professional entertainer based in the Newcastle area. She will be performing an eclectic mix of original material plus well known jazz/blues covers. 12 noon, Gartelmann Wines, 701 Lovedale Road, Lovedale. Free entry. For details visit www.gartelmann.com.au

9-24 **UHRL, Muswellbrook Branch celebrates the NSW National Trust Heritage Festival.**

This year's theme is *The Making of Our Nation*.
9th-24th - "Personalities of the Past" Display
18th - "Town Walk" at 3pm, booking essential
20th - "The Life & Times of Governor Lachlan Macquarie" lecture at 7:15pm.
Upper Hunter Regional Library, 126 Bridge St, Muswellbrook. For details call 65431913.

10 **Youth Week 2010 "Singleton Business Buskers" Busking Competition**

Come and support the talented local young people

11-25 yrs in this competition. Prize pool \$300.

9am to noon, John St, Singleton. For more details call the Singleton Youth Venue on 65714687.

10&11 **A Little Bit of Italy in Broke**

An Italian festival of food, wine and music. Various venues around the Broke Fordwich Wine Region. For details visit www.brokefordwich.com.au

10 **Rediscovered: An Archaeology of the Present**

This is an exhibition of contemporary sculpture. it runs until the 16th May.

Cessnock Regional Art Gallery, 16 Vincent Street, Cessnock. Tuesday to Sunday 10.00am to 4.00pm. For details call 4991 6619 or visit www.crag.net.au

13 **Screening of A Night At the Opera**

This is the 1935 Marx Brothers' comedy. It is being presented by the Museum of Rural Life Inc Aberdeen as part of their *Golden Oldies for Golden Oldies*. Open to seniors living in Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter shires. Donation \$10 includes 3 course lunch. 11:30am Aberdeen Bowling Club. Bookings essential by 11th, call 6543 7150 or 6543 6267.

13 **"Sitting Down – a Visual History of the Chair"**

A lecture by Mr Michael Bogle MA, MSc. This lecture is being presented by the ADFAS Scone.

6 for 6:30 pm, Scone Arts & Craft Hall, Kingdon St, Scone. For more details call Barbie on 6545 0471 or Jill on 6545 1822.

15 **The Quilters Guru - Tita Leach**

Presented by the Museum of Rural Life Inc (Aberdeen). Tita will exhibit a large collection of recent quilts and give a talk on her experiences. Inc a 3 course dinner. 7pm, Aberdeen Bowling Club Auditorium, New England Hwy, Aberdeen. Donation \$25. Booking essential by 5th on 6543 7150 or 6543 6267.

17&18 **Baerami Bush Dance & Campout**

Traditional acoustic music played by Waltzing Jack. Dances are explained, beginners welcome. For all the details visit www.calli.com.au and look under news/ events for brochure or call 6571 1208.

18 **Quilt Extravaganza**

Displays of quilts and market stalls. 8:30am to 2:30pm. St Marks Hall, and the grounds of the Aberdeen Information Centre, Segenhoe St, Aberdeen. \$2 entry. For details call 6543 8457.

18 **Sacred Spaces celebrates the NSW National Trust Heritage Festival with High Tea.**

Brian Andrews, historian, will give a talk on Lachlan Macquarie followed by "High Tea" and music in the

Convent and gardens. Bookings essential. \$20
2pm, Sisters of Mercy Convent Chapel, 30 Queen
Street, Singleton. To book call 6572 2398 or email
sacredspaces@singmercy.org.au

23 Hannah Kay - *Weightlessness, a survey 2003 - 2010, Anzac Day Exhibition and Worlds Apart* - Gutt, McIntosh & Perrin

Exhibitions runs until 6th June.
Opening night 6pm Friday 23rd April.
Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Cnr of Bridge and
Market Sts, Tuesday to Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday
10am – 1pm, Sunday 2pm – 5pm ph 6549 3880.

23 Dorothy Jones China Painting Exhibition

Brisbane-based artist Dorothy will be exhibiting a
beautiful selection of her works. Runs until 1st May.
Opening is 23rd, 6pm, \$10 include refreshments.
Scone Arts & Crafts, Kingdon St, Scone. Then daily
10am to 4pm, \$2. For enquiries ring Scott on 0427 101
697.

23 15th Camden Haven Music Festival

The festival has something for everyone; featuring
classical, swing, world music and blues. Workshops,
Reconciliation Lunch, African dance and drumming,
and a spectacular Lantern Parade on the Camden
Haven River. Runs until 2nd May.
For details visit www.chmf.org.au or call 6556 9622.

28 Clay Energy 2010

This is a week long international festival of clay and
ceramics. The festival includes talks, demonstrations,
exhibitions etc. Held at Gulgong every third year.
For details and to register visit www.ceramicart.net.au

30 *Clicks From A Timeless Land* by Chris Russell

Chris Russell has invented and developed a unique
style of landscape photography which he calls 'real
abstractions'. Runs until the 23rd May.
Gloucester Gallery, Denison St., Gloucester. Open 10am
-4pm Fri, Sat, Sun. For details please call Leanne 0428
508704 or 02 6558 3157

**30 The Williams River Valley Artists' Project
exhibition Tocal Field Days**

Residencies and research begun in the Williams River
valley in March 2009 by a diverse group of artists
who share an interest in our relationship to the
environment. Artists exhibiting are Suzanne Bartos,
Neil Berecny Brown, Noelene Lucas, Bridget Nicholson,
Margaret Roberts, Toni Warburton, David Watson and
the project initiator and curator, Juliet Fowler Smith.
Local artist Bridget Nicholson will be on site for the full
three days wrapping peoples' feet in clay to add to her
collection of 'shoes' entitled 'touch this earth lightly'.

Tocal Agricultural College, Tocal Rd., near Paterson.
Field Day open 9am to 5pm, tickets adult \$16, child \$9,
includes entry into exhibition 10am to 4pm. Enquiries
to Juliet 0425 201 182.

30 Bush Poet Evening

Poetry, music, frivolity and fun. Compered by well
known poet Milton Taylor. Soup, damper, tea and
coffee provided. Bookings essential.
6pm, Denman Memorial Hall. For details 0427 472 290.

30 2010 ISCM World New Music Days

The International Society of Contemporary Music
festival commenced in 1922. This is the first time in
its history that it is being held in Australia. The festival
includes over 20 concerts, with a wide range of
Australian and international artists. Runs until 9th May.
For all the details including artists, venues, tickets etc
please visit www.worldnewmusicdays.com.au

30 2010 Scone & Upper Hunter Horse Festival

This is a 17 day festival celebrating horses. It features
a wide range of events including street parade, fete,
rodeo, ball and picnic day. For all the details visit www.horsecapital.com.au



Cr Karen Portolan opening the Muswellbrook Open Photographic Award. photo
courtesy of Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre

May

1&2 Scone High School P&C and Staff Quilt Show

Weekend features quilts made by parents and staff.
Stalls holders include: Busy Needles, Eddies Sewing,
Scrap & Patch, Shop-in-the-Shed and Southern Cross
Needlework. Entry includes cuppa, sandwich & slice.
Scone High School, Gundy St, Scone. 10am to 4pm. For
more details call Tonia on 6545 1008.



1 "Use and Beauty : The Gardens of Worlitz"

A lecture by Mr Steven Desmond MA IF Hort NADFAS. This evening is being presented by the ADFAS Scone. 6 for 6:30 pm, St Luke's Hall, Liverpool St, Scone. For more details call Barbie on 6545 0471 or Jill on 6545 1822.

14&15 Shakespeare On Avon Festival

This year's performance is A Midsummer Nights Dream presented by *Stooged Theatre*. The festival includes Saturday markets featuring medieval jousting, dancing & stall, plus "The Feast" is being served both evenings. Friday & Saturday evenings, with a Saturday matinee. Various ticket prices. For details call the Gloucester Information Centre on 6558 1408 or visit www.gloucester.org.au and select "events".

16 'A Violin, a Soprano and The Piano Man'

Philip Sketchley at the piano, with Peta Dries & Patricia Woods will bring to life music of the ages for violin and voice. 2pm, Sisters of Mercy Convent Chapel, 30 Queen Street, Singleton. Tickets (includes afternoon tea): \$25 adults, \$20 concession, \$5 school students. To book call 6572 2398 or visit www.sacredspaces.org.au

27-30 Dungog Film Festival

This is an annual film festival celebrating Australian films. The festival offers a program Australian features, documentaries, shorts, music videos, television and animation. For all the details and to book your tickets please visit www.dungogfilmfestival.org

28-30 19th Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Eisteddfod, Piano Division

Muswellbrook South Public School, 57 Maitland Street, Muswellbrook. Gold coin donation. Fri 6-9pm, Sat 9am to 12pm, 1-4pm, 6-8pm, Sun 9am-12pm, 1-4pm. For more details please call Denise 6541 1065.

April

1 19th Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Eisteddfod Piano, Speech, Drama and Public Speaking, School Choirs & School Band Divisions - close

For guidelines and an entry form please visit www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

2 Youth Week 2010 "Singleton Business Buskers" Busking Competition - entries close

Prize pool of \$300, two age groups 11-15, & 16-24 yrs. Being held 10th, 9am to 12pm. Forms and details call the Singleton Youth Venue on 65714687.

8 Dungog Film Festival - entries close

The Dungog Film Festival is a non competitive festival open only to Australian filmmakers. They accept: feature film, documentary, short narrative, short documentary, animation, film, video, TV pilots and Music Videos. Short Films & Music Videos 0-30 mins, and Feature Films & TV Pilots (30mins +). Entry fee is \$35. For all the details please visit www.dungogfilmfestival.org

9 Griffin Award - entries close

This an annual award with \$10,000 prize offered for an outstanding new Australian play or performance text. For details <http://www.griffintheatre.com.au/playwriting/griffin-award/>

9 ABaF Margaret Lawrence Bequest Scholarship - applications close

Offers arts managers a scholarship to attend an approved AGSM Executive Program. For details www.abaf.org.au/ or contact AbaF on 03 9616 0300

16 47th Currabubula Art Show - entries close

There are four sections: Oil or Acrylic, Watercolour, Any Other Medium (no photographs), Miniature. Prize pool of \$4500. For details http://www.countryconnect.com.au/curraart/index.cfm?page_parent_id=1&page_id=1

23 Art Unlimited - entries close

This year's theme is "My Landscape". Three categories: hanging art, photography and ceramics. Total prize pool of \$9500. For details www.artsunlimited.com.au

30 National Youth Self Portrait Prize 2010 - entries close

This prize is open to Australians aged 18 to 25 yrs. The prize is \$10,000. For all the details www.portrait.gov.au

30 Harold White Fellowships - applications close

The National Library of Australia offers annual fellowships to established researchers and writers. For details www.nla.gov.au/grants/haroldwhite/

sheri's bon mot

*"Art may not spread germs
but can lower resistance"*

Sheri McEvoy

30 Powerhouse Museum International Lace Award – expressions of entry close

Professional and amateur artists, designers and practitioners around the world are invited to enter for the chance to be exhibited at the Powerhouse Museum and win a share of \$40,000 prize money. <http://www.powerhousemuseum.com/lace/>

May**3 Short Sharp Film Festival – entries close**

This festival is an annual event to showcase the work of film-makers and aspiring film-makers. Sections include: primary, junior and senior high school and open. For all the details www.shortsharppilmfest.com

21 Classic Surf Art Exhibition- entries close

This is an opportunity to interpret and conceptualize the spirit of surfing and a beach lifestyle. Categories include: Works on Canvas/Paper, Photography, 3D, Indigenous Artwork, Surfboard Artwork and a Grommets Section (Under 12 yrs). For all the details please visit www.wonderlandframing.com.au



David Mahoney & his work at the Denman Sculpture Garden, photo courtesy of Bridget Nicholson

April**1 Visions Australia - applications close**

This is the Australian Government's national touring exhibitions funding program, and funding is available from both development and touring. For details visit www.arts.gov.au:80/arts/visions_of_australia

6 Splendid 2010 Call for Artists - apps close

Splendid is seeking fearless artists for two weeks of bending artforms and collaboration to create new works for Splendour in the Grass festival. The program

includes a residential Arts Lab, mentorship and opportunities to promote your work. For details <http://www.splendid.org.au/index.shtml>

10 Curator Development Initiative – apps close

The National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA) provides the opportunity for emerging and mid-career curators to gain mentored placements within a gallery, art institution or university. For details visit www.visualarts.net.au look under news.

16 Museum & Galleries, Volunteer Initiated Museum (VIM) Grant Program, Small Grants – applications close

Grants of up to \$1,500 available. For details call 9339 9913 or visit mgnsw.org.au/grants/museum_grants/

16 FaHCSIA's Volunteer Grants 2010 - apps close

Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Volunteer Grants 2010 provides funding of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 to help non-profit organisations purchase small equipment, training courses etc. For details call 1800 183 374 or http://fahcsia.gov.au/sa/volunteers/funding/Pages/volunteer_grants2010.aspx

27 Artists in Schools Residency – applications close

Individual NSW public schools, clusters of NSW public schools and artists collaborating with NSW public schools are invited to apply for the program which is to provide students, teachers, parents and the wider community with first-hand opportunities to work with professional artists over a period of time. For details <http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/secondary/creativearts/essentials/ais.htm>

28 The Sidney Myer Fund, Arts and Humanities Small Grants Program - exp of interest close

This program is for grants up to \$30,000 and are generally made for a 12 month period. Must be an Australian incorporated association. If successful you will be required to submit a full application. For details www.myerfoundation.org.au/programs/content.cfm

May**3 Arts NSW's 2010 & 2011 Screen Audience Development, applications close**

This provides funding to organisations for public screenings, festivals or tours that provide opportunities for audiences to see and experience quality screen content and innovative practice, for one-off or annual events, in single or multiple venues. For details visit www.arts.nsw.gov.au



workshops + conferences

14 The Community Heritage Grants 2010 – applications close
 CHG) program aims to preserve and provide access to nationally significant, Australian cultural heritage material held by community groups across the country. Grants of up to \$15 000 are available for preservation projects and training through community based workshops. Organisations such as historical societies, museums, public libraries etc can apply.
<http://www.nla.gov.au/chg/>

18 NSW Visual Artist International Residency Opportunity, Darling Foundry, Montréal – applications close
 Under this new initiative by Artspace in partnership with Arts NSW, one artist will be offered a fully funded three-month residency at the Darling Foundry, Montréal, Canada to take place October – December 2010. For details please visit artspace.org.au/residency/residency_international.php

April

15&16 Public Art Workshop with Braddon Snape
 Free workshop for young people aged 12-25. No need to book, just rock up on the day. 15th, 10:30 am-12:30pm, Doug Walters Pavilion, Dungog
 16th 12-4pm, Rutherford Skate Park.
 For details call Bec on 0407 891 650.

19 Working in Museums Introductory Course
 Upper Hunter Outreach is presenting this course, and content will include: gathering stories on museum items, pest management, cleaning, basic customer service, guest speakers etc. Mondays 9:30 am to 2:30pm, till 21st June. Aberdeen Church Hall, Segenhoe St, Aberdeen. For details call Annabelle McLoughlin 6542 1115.

20&22 Writers Workshops with PP (Pat) Cranney
 PP Cranney, playwright, has been commissioned by AUH to write a play about shift work. During his first residency he will hold workshops on writing. Workshops are free, Call the library to reserve a place.
 20th - Singleton Library, Queen St. 6578 7500
 22nd - Upper Hunter Regional Library, Muswellbrook. 6543 1913.

28-30 China Painting Workshop with Dorothy Jones
 This three 1/2 day workshop is suited to beginners and more experienced china painter. \$110 includes most materials and firing costs.
 Scone Arts & Crafts, Kingdon St, Scone. For enquires and bookings call Scott 0427 101 697.

May

3 Adult Acting Classes
 Hunter Valley Actors Centre in Maitland is starting a new course. They will cover the fundamentals of acting culminating in the production and presentation of a 1 act play. Classes will be held weekly. For details call 0407457966 or visit www.hunervalleyactorscentre.com.au



Roger Hanley electro Pura # 1 undated type c print, image used courtesy of the artist, winner of the acquisitive 22nd Muswellbrook Open Photographic Award

Contributions to the May 2010 edition of Artsbark closes 21st of April

To be included, please forward your contribution to Arts Upper Hunter; see below for details. Please include:
 Facts of the Event eg: Name, Date, Time, Venue, Ticket costs etc, Description of the event/opportunity etc 1 or 2 sentences. A contact name and phone number for more information regarding the event/opportunity. Name and contact details of the person lodging the contribution.

not to miss

Artsbark is the bi-monthly publication of **Arts Upper Hunter Inc.** supported by the Dungog, Gloucester, Muswellbrook, Singleton and Upper Hunter Shires and Arts NSW.

Artsbark draws on information from local, state and national arts organisations. We thank you and welcome your contribution.

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