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APRIL 2009 ISSUE 46

artsbark

editor's desk

News from the board of Arts Upper Hunter Inc. Following our annual general meeting in March we are pleased to announce that Stuart St Hill has replaced Roger Hale as Chair of the board. Stuart joined Arts Upper Hunter Inc in June 2008 as the community representative for the Upper Hunter. Stuart is a trumpeter with the 7 piece jazz/funk band Fish Fry and has worked in regional libraries and galleries/museums. Stuart runs his own computer IT business and has four boys who keep him busy with their sports and music commitments. Stuart is in the process of moving to Foster and is taking on this role as a co-opted board member. He is still working in and around Scone and is quickly becoming an expert on routes and times. Janice Hanicar has taken on the role of Vice Chair, Janice joined the Arts Upper Hunter board in September 2007 and is a visual artist with a background in Community services, particularly childcare, and lives in Singleton. We are sad to farewell Cr. Claire Pfister-Paradice who joined the board as the Upper Hunter Shire Council representative. Clare has had to withdraw from her position on council, we are awaiting the Upper Hunter Shire Council to nominate a new representative, following their By-Election in April. As a result of all this movement we will be seeking a new community representative from the Upper Hunter area, if anyone is interested in taking on this role please contact Bridget for further information.

This month is all about people. I would like to introduce Clare Tilyard who will be working with us over the next 6 months on a project called Connectivity. Clare has a background in theatre and production, she has broad experience with arts organizations; including working with artists' contracts and database maintenance for National Street Arts Festivals and International Conferences for Street Arts Promotions in the UK. More recently Clare worked with the Dungog Chamber of Commerce in organizing their awards and the festival Timberfest. Clare moved to Dungog 5 years ago from the UK and has recently started a Diploma in Ceramics at the Newcastle TAFE.

The Connectivity project is all about collecting information relating to people and places associated with the arts in our region. This information will be put on the website, where appropriate, and into our database. We have a new database program which is part of the statewide network and has been designed specifically to help us connect to our clients (you) in the most effective and efficient way. An example of ways in which you can benefit from this is that we frequently receive information relating to employment opportunities for specific groups such as music teachers, public art commissions etc. We will be able to direct these to the people who have identified with us as being, teachers working to commission etc... We have called this project connectivity as this is at the core of what we do and will enable us to help people find resources, and skills that can assist them in making things happen.



Stuart St Hill, the Chair of the Board of Arts Upper Hunter

In other news, shows have been happening, and artists of all ages have come out of the woodwork to 'have a go'. The film making project Portraits of Place has started in Gloucester where a number of interested people turned out last week



to watch some short films and start thinking about what they might like to do during the workshop. An information and film watching evening will be in Dungog 27th March. Anyone interested in attending either the Dungog or the Gloucester workshop needs to contact Arts Upper Hunter to fill out and return a registration form by the 3rd April. The Dungog workshop will be the 16th-18th April and the Gloucester one the 20th-22nd April. We look forward to seeing the films that are made as part of the workshops and will keep you posted with their screening information.

We are also in the process of setting up a program of creative development 'retreats'. We have received funding from TAFE NSW to run a program which enables young people to attend a retreat during the school holidays where there will be intensive workshops in art based mediums. There will be 5 retreats throughout the year, each for 5 days. The retreats are for young people aged 12-24 living across the Hunter. The camps are a creative development opportunity for young people and will include a combination of structured workshops delivered by industry professionals and unstructured creative development time. This program is being co-ordinated by Rebecca Fowles. Rebecca will be advertising soon for interested people to send in an expression of interest identifying the kinds of workshops they would like to attend. Watch the papers for more information or contact Bec at hunterartstart@live.com.au or on 0428 568 291.

A reminder for CASP applicants, that you will be notified in early April regarding proposals. We look forward to announcing the projects in the May edition of Artsbark .

April

- 3 Opening of "...even as a stranger"**
This is an exhibition of works by Ray Firth. His paintings are infused with intense layers of colour have an unmistakable connection to the vast Australian landscape into which he regularly ventures for inspiration. In 2007 Ray Firth was one of the artists in the "6 Voices" touring exhibition of aboriginal and white artists that culminated at Parliament house, Sydney. The exhibition runs until 26th. Opening 6:30pm, Haydon Hall, 66 Mayne St, Murrurundi. Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 5pm. Courtyard Cafe Thursday to Sunday 11am to 5pm, for more details call 6546 6969.
- 3 Youth Band Competition Finals**
A Singleton Youth Venue event that promises to be a big night as the winners from 3 heats battle it out. 6:30pm, \$5, drug & alcohol free, Singleton Youth Venue, Pitt St. Singleton. For details call 6571 4687.

3 Opening of "The Paper Trail", "Miniatures XIII", "Signs of Tension" and "Military Artefacts" Exhibitions.

The exhibition runs until the 10th of May. Opening is 6 pm. Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Cnr of Bridge and Market Sts, Tuesday to Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm, Sunday 2pm – 5pm, for details please call 6549 3880.

4 & 5 A Little Bit of Broke

A celebration of everything Italian, food, music and entertainment. Various locations throughout the Broke region. For more details visit <http://www.brokefordwich.com.au/> or call Broke Fordwich Tourism Association on 6579 1334

4 & 5 18th Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Eisteddfod - Vocal Section

Saturday 9am, 1pm & 7pm and Sunday 9am & 1pm. South Muswellbrook Public School MPC. Tickets \$3 per session or \$5 all day. No refreshments available.

6 "Chainsaw Sculpture" by Geoff Hitchcock

This exhibition will run until the 3rd of May. Gloucester Art Gallery, Denison Street, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday 10am to 4pm. Free entry. For more details call 6558 3157.

12 Community Markets at Broke

Various stalls, local produce, sausage sizzle etc. 9am, McNamara Park, Broke Village. For details call Wendy on 6579 1334.

14 'Recent Events: Design for International Events', Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, Asian Games, Doho 2006, FIFA World Congress, World Youth Day (Stations of the Cross).

This lecture is by Mr Michael Scott Mitchell, a set designer, and is being presented by the ADFAS Scone. 6pm. Scone Arts and Crafts Hall, Kingdon St. Scone. For details call Gail on 6543 4620 or Jill on 6545 1822.

18, 24 & 25 "Jest call me Cowboy"

This play is being presented by the Moonan Mummies and was written by Judith Prior. It tells the misfortunes of Miss Maggie and her friends as they aspire to become movie stars and rescue her Silver Slipper Saloon from the threat of bankruptcy. Moonan Hall, for bookings and details call Carol on 6546 1131.

19 Quilt Extravaganza

There will be a huge quilt display and lots of variety markets including quilting supplies. Morning tea and a ploughman's lunch will be available. Proceeds to the Aberdeen Information Centre.

8am to 4pm, St Mark's Hall, Segenhoe St & the Aberdeen Community Hall, New England Hwy, Aberdeen. For more details please call the Aberdeen Information Centre on 6543 845.

24 **Chrysanthemum Show and Autumn Flower Show**

Range of sections. Free entry. Refreshments available. 10am -5pm, Uniting Church Hall, Bridge St, Muswellbrook. For details call Fred on 6543 1296.

May

1 **Bush Poet Evening**

A fun filled evening of poetry and music, fun and frivolity, soup and damper, tea and coffee provided. 6pm open for seating & soup, performance at 7pm. Memorial Hall, Ogilvie Street, Denman. Tickets are \$25 and available by calling 0427 472290 9am to 5pm. BYO drinks and nibbles.

1-17 **Scone Horse Festival**

A huge program of events and activities including parade, busking competition, fete etc. For details please visit www.horsecapital.com.au or call the Scone Information Centre on 6545 1526.

1-3 **Miss Saigon**

Opera Hunter presents this musical by Allan Boublil & Claude-Michel Schonberg, which tells the tragic tale of a doomed romance involving an Asian woman abandoned by her American lover.

Cessnock Performing Arts Centre, ph 4993 4100.

It is also on at the Lake Macquarie Performing Arts Centre on 8th to 17th May, tickets can be purchased from lower Hunter branches of Commonwealth Bank.

2 **'Erin Trio'- an afternoon of Irish Music**

An afternoon of traditional Irish music in the Chapel, with the 'Erin Trio' (Bernadette Lannen - voice & bodhran; Nate Downie - fiddle; and Andrew Goodwin - guitar). This concert will celebrate the Irish heritage of the founding Sisters.

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

2 **Upper Hunter Wine & Food Affair**

Great food & wine, entertainment for everyone, lots of music etc

11am to 4pm, Ogilvie St, Denman. For details call 0417 439 776 or visit www.visitdenman.com.au

8 **"Hide" by Bridget Nicholson**

The exhibition runs until 31st May.

Gloucester Art Gallery, Denison Street, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday 10am to 4pm. Free entry. For more details call 6558 3157.

8 **Scone Arts & Crafts Inc 2009 Members' Exhibition & Sale, and The Scone Horse Festival Photographic Competition**

Guest speaker is Bridget Nicholson. The exhibition runs until the 17th, and will be open daily. On the 9th there will be Parade Day Stall with BBQ and refreshments from 8am.

Opening 6pm, Scone Arts and Crafts, 63 Kingdon St Scone. For more details please call Scott Cooper on 0427 101 697.

8 **Opening of "The Museum Effect" exhibition**

As part of the collaborative project, Hunter Art 2: Collecting and Exhibiting Cultures between Lake Macquarie, Newcastle & Maitland Regional Galleries, this exhibition examines regional galleries in the 21st century and the different professional approaches to exhibition practice. Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, First Street, Booragul, Tue to Sundays, 10am to 5pm. Free entry. For details call 4965 8260.

12 **"What does it take to be an Australian official war artist?"**

A lecture by Ms Lola Wilkins, Head of Art at the Australian War Museum presented by the ADFAS Scone.

6 for 6:30 pm, St Lukes Hall, Liverpool St, Scone. For more details call Gail on 6543 4620 or Jill on 6545 1822.

15 & 16 **Gloucester Shakespeare On Avon Festival**

This year's performance is Twelfth Night, and 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".

15 **Set the Skies Ablaze at Scone**

This band is touring our region which also marks the release of their new EP, "While The City Sleeps..."

6pm, Scone Youth Centre, 100 Susan St, Scone. Under 18yrs only. \$5 tickets at the door.

15 **Opening of "Favourite Object" and Unseen Works from the Collections exhibitions.**

The exhibitions runs until the 21st of June.

Opening is 6 pm. Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Cnr of Bridge and Market Sts, Tuesday to Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm, Sunday 2pm – 5pm, for details please call 6549 3880.



17 Set the Skies Ablaze at Singleton

The 4th show in this band's tour of the region. 4pm, all ages, Singleton Youth Centre, Pitt St, Singleton. \$5, tickets at the door.

16 "Greetings From Lorn"

This exhibition celebrates the mail and runs until the 14th June. Lorn Gallery, 17 Belmore Rd, Lorn. Thursday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm. For details call 4933 2533.

17-20 Museums Australia National Conference

The 2009 Museums Australia conference wants to turn "How on earth did you get there?" into "That's how we can do it." With the four sub themes Working Together, Working Hard, Working Differently and Working New. Newcastle City Hall, 290 King St. Cost vary, early bird discounts before 3rd April. For more details call 4973 6573 or visit www.ma2009.com.au

28-31 Dungog Film Festival

This festival will feature more than 24 programs screened in 2 venues. It will also feature "In The Raw" (live script readings) and Industry Seminars. There is a range of passes available, bookings being taken. For more information call 8299 0707 or visit www.dungogfilmfestival.org

28-31 "The Trial" and "Metamorphosis"

Presented by the Hunter TAFE Performing Arts, and by Franz Kafka, adapted by Steven Berkoff. 28, 29 & 30th 7:30pm, 30th 2pm, 31st 5pm. Tickets \$22, con \$18. Playhouse, Hunter St, Newcastle. Tickets will be available from Ticketek from 27th April.



Painting by Peter Firth, photo courtesy of Haydon Hall.

April

3 18th Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Eisteddfod, Vocal division, Piano division, Speech, Drama & Public Speaking Division and the Speech, Drama & Public Speaking Division - applications close

For details regarding:
Instrumental Division contact Mrs Vicki French (gelston@maxnet.net.au).
Piano Division contact Mrs Denise Collins (denisecollins@internode.on.net).
Speech, Drama & Public Speaking Division contact Mr Graham Turvey (gturvey@aapt.net.au).
School Choirs & School Bands Division contact Mrs Suzie Troon and Mrs Alison Murphy (suzietroon@bigpond.com).

3 Griffin Award - entries close

The Griffin Award is an annual \$10,000 prize offered for an outstanding new Australian play or performance text. For details or to download application form, visit www.griffintheatre.com.au/Literary/griffin-award.cfm or call 9332 1052.

8 STOMP needs Stompers – submissions close

Newcastle's annual multicultural and community festival, Cultural STOMP invites submissions of interest from anyone interested in participating in the Festival this year on the 6th June. For details or to download job description, application forms visit octapod.org/pages/cultural-stomp-festival

14 Wall2Wall Mural Art Competition - applications close

Four large walls are available for four artists to produce work. Leichhardt Council will pay material costs for the creation of the selected applicants' works. Cash prizes 1st \$2000, 2nd \$1000, 3rd & 4th \$650. Call Bronwyn Tuohy on 9367 9379 or visit <http://www.leichhardt.nsw.gov.au/Wall-2-Wall.html>

24 The Armidale Regional Art Prize 2009 - entries close

There are 4 sections: Painting, Drawing, Photographic and Sculpture. Total prize money is \$3000. Entry fee \$10 per work, max of 3 per artist, all works for sale. Contact the Armidale Art Gallery on 6772 9993 for an entry form or more information.

30 National Youth Self Portrait Prize 2009 - entries close

For artists 18 to 25 yrs, \$10,000 prize. For full details visit portrait.gov.au or call 02 6102 7000.

30 The William Fletcher Grants - entries close

This is an annual grant awarded to outstanding young visual arts students. For full details visit www.williamfletcherfoundation.org.au/grants.htm

May**10 "Greeting From Lorn"**

This exhibition celebrates the mail. All mediums including: painting, sculpture, printmaking, textile arts, ceramics etc and also interpretations eg: letters, postcards, letterboxes, envelopes, stamps, house numbers etc are welcome. For more information and entry forms contact Gallery Director, Kathy Dowling on 4933 2533.

30 23rd World Congress on Dance Research, being held in Athens - submissions close

Professionals are invited to submit proposals for: performances, classes, research reports, lecture-demonstrations, exhibitions/sales, video projections. For full details please visit http://www.orchesis-portal.org/cdr/index.php?ltemid=1&option=com_content

31 Actress, Mature Aged required for Film - applications close

Local film maker, Michael Winchester, is casting his independent feature film called "Bathing Franky" to be shot later this year in Maitland, Dungog and Newcastle. Michael is looking to cast a woman aged 60 years or over to play the title character in the film. No acting experience is required but the actress does have a substantial role in the film and as such would need to feel comfortable in front of the camera. This will be a paid engagement. For more details contact Michael on 4931 7120 or email, ozziebites@hunterlink.net.au

Open Stroud Writers FAW NSW Annual Writing Competition

There are 2 categories: Short Stories up to 3000 words, and Memoir of up to 1000 words. First place \$150, 2nd place \$75, and Highly Commended awards. No entry form, just cover sheet with your contact details, title of story and word count. Must not be submitted to concurrent competition. Closes 30th July. \$5 entry fee, and sent to Competition Secretary Stroud Writers FAW NSW Inc, PO Box 4 Stroud. For more details email stroudwriters@yahoo.com.au

April**3 Bursaries to attend the Museums Australia National Conference 2009 - applications close**

Bursaries are being offered by Museums and Galleries NSW to assist museum volunteers to attend the conference being held in Newcastle 17-21 of May.

For details call Phoebe Arthur, Sector Development Coordinator on 9339 9913 or email phoebea@mgnsw.org.au

15 Connections Residencies - applications close

The Australia Council is offering this new program to support artists to initiate residencies with non-arts businesses and industries. Funding of up to \$30,000 is available, residencies placements should be at least 6 months.

For details visit www.australiacouncil.gov.au/grants/grants/connections/

27 The JB Seed an Arts Grant Fund- applications close

The JB Seed aims to help Australian artists from any background, creating art and music across any genre, to establish themselves as self-sustained, professional artists. There are 4 categories. Applications have to be lodged online.

For details visit <http://www.thejbseed.com/>

May**8 Volunteer Initiated Museum (VIM) Small Grants - applications close**

Offered by Museum & Galleries NSW, the aim is to meet the short term, collection based requirements of community museums. There is no set categories of funding. Grants of up to \$1500.

For details call Phoebe Authur on 9339 9913 or visit mgnsw.org.au/grants/vim_small_grants

15 Janet Holmes a Court Artist's Grant - applications close

This grant provides assistance towards the costs of public presentation of visual arts, craft and design. This can include, but is not limited to, framing, media releases, media photographs, advertising, space rental, installation costs, etc. Amounts available are: \$500 for individuals, and \$1,000 for groups.

For details visit www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/vcags

sheri's bon mot

*"Simplicity is the
ultimate sophistication."*

Leonardo da Vinci



April

- 3 Portraits of Place Workshop - registrations close**
 16 - 18th April Dungog
 20 -22nd April Gloucester
 Three day film making workshop with award winning film makers, tallstoreez productionz. This project is being organised by Arts Upper Hunter with funding from Arts NSW. For details please call Bridget Nicholson, on 4992 1003 or via rado@artsupperhunter.com.au
- 4&5 Painting workshops with Joy Cooksey**
 This is a two day workshop being held at the Scone Arts and Crafts, Kingdon St, Scone. For details call Betty Lambley on 6543 7160.
- 29 Access to Funding Workshop**
 Successfully obtaining funds for museums and galleries requires knowledge and creativity. Museums & Galleries NSW presents Access to Funding, an invaluable workshop which delivers the skills and specialist knowledge to make accessing funds a reality. 10am to 4pm, Australian Country Music Hall of Fame, 93 Brisbane St, Tamworth. For more details or to book call Phoebe Arthur on 9339 9913, or visit <http://mgns.org.au/>



Clare Tilyard joins AUH.

April

- 15 & 21 Holiday Fun @ Singleton Public Library**
 15th - 'Art Attack' includes stories and crafts for kids interested in art. Create your own art based on famous paintings. Free, all ages welcome. 2 sessions.
 21st - Magic Show, 'Puzzles 4 Muggles'. All ages welcome, fee involved.
 Singleton Public Library, 8-10 Queen St, Singleton. To book call 6578 7500.
- Now Scone Ceramic Group - Beginners Classes**
 Hands-on and wheel starter techniques. Two hour classes, for 4 weeks. Choice of 4pm or 6:30pm, Monday, \$90 includes instruction, clay, glaze & firing, and 12mths membership of group & Scone Arts & Crafts. For more details call Scott Cooper on 0427101697 or innerscape@hunterlink.net.au
- Now Scone Arts & Crafts Artists' Group**
 Do you want to paint? Watercolour, pastel, oils, pen charcoal, acrylic & more. Beginners are invited to join these small friendly groups.
 Tuesdays 7-9:30pm, Fridays 10am-2pm. Scone Arts & Crafts, 63 Kingdon St, Scone. For more details call Terry Cox on 6541464.
- Now The Gold Book**
 Published in Dec 2008 it spotlights successful relationships between business, donors and the arts sector. It was produced by Australian Business Arts Foundation and is free for download on www.abaf.org.au, or can be purchased by emailing info@abaf.org.au
- Contributions to the May 2009 edition of Artsbark closes 21st April 2009.**
 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.

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

contact

phone Dungog (02) 4992 1033
 Scone (02) 6545 9727

eml rado@artsupperhunter.com.au
 or admin@artsupperhunter.com.au

PO Box 48, Dungog, NSW 2420

