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JUNE 2009 ISSUE 48

artsbark

editor's desk

Time is going so fast that I feel I am chasing it – chasing time being a kind of odd concept. Festivals are a bit of a feature. The Scone Horse Festival has been on with a large number of activities. The Scone Arts and Crafts had their member's exhibition and photographic competition, to coincide with this. The photography prize highlighted the connection between humans and animals, in particular the horse. It was a treat to see the connection between people and animals so beautifully expressed. The evening was further embellished with music by singer-song writer John McCormack, who was hilarious, and Caroline Long and Marie Beer playing some old favourites from the American new acoustic period. It was great to be able to enjoy local musicians live, more please. Caroline and Marie are part of the Scone Singers, a group which meets informally at the Scone High School music room on Sundays evenings at 5pm. The group has competed in eisteddfods, and at public functions, they are available should you be looking for something for an event. For more information contact Cheryl Pringle Cheryl.Pringle@det.nsw.edu.au.

The Shakespeare Festival has also happened in Gloucester, this annual event draws an audience from far and wide. The Dungog Film Festival is on the last weekend in May and Dungog residents are busy decorating their windows with reference to Australian films, the Art Society have been busy painting portraits of Australian film celebrities to auction, and the VIC has been flat out trying to find accommodation for visitors.

Both Singleton and Dungog have been treated with live performances thanks to this year's CASP grants. Sunwrae Ensemble played at the Dungog Cinema, this nine piece orchestra including a harp and vibraphone play their own compositions of cinematic contemporary classical (defies definition). It was a breath-takingly beautiful performance both acoustically and visually. The group fitted Dungog into their national tour and hope to be touring next year, so hopefully we could have them in the region again next year. The Singleton Arts and Music Society hosted a performance

by the Newcastle Festival Opera at the Singleton Youth Venue, again an opportunity for people to experience professional musicians and have a good night out.

Finally, we have received a very special offer for an artist in residency program. The Ashfield Council in Sydney has a residency program that offers an artist accommodation, studio space and access to council facilities for a six month period. They have just had a vacancy open up for July – December 2009. We have been contacted through Gerard Howard who comes from Murrurundi and is keen to support local artists. The Council offers a \$200/wk stipend as well as accommodation, studio space, and access to administration support in return for approx. 10hrs/wk of community engagement, which may be in the form of workshops, public talks and work in schools. In the past they have had a puppeteer, visual artist, performance artists and most recently someone doing artists books and journals, so open to any medium. Anyone interested in pursuing this please contact Anthia Hart on 9716 1866.

Bidart Nicholson



Newcastle Festival Opera. Photo courtesy of Joan Dunlop



June

3-14 **Sydney Film Festival**

The festival program will include 9 World Premieres, 86 Australian Premieres and a stunning array of red-carpet galas. There are also a wide range of free talks and forums.

State Theatre, Sydney. To view program or to book visit www.sydneyfilmfestival.org

6 **Opening of "What we see and what we feel" Exhibition by Tim Mullaney.**

Tim has been a resident of the Stroud area for 31 years and said he is still inspired by the region's beauty, and the variation through the change of seasons. The exhibition runs until 28th.

Opening 6pm. Gloucester Art Gallery, Denison Street, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday 10am to 4pm. Free entry. For more details call 6558 3157.

6 **Benefit Gig**

Performing will be popular 80's band, *The Reels* with local jazz identities Matt Crane and Paul McNamara. This event is part of weekend activities organised by NTDG, for details call Fran Crane on 4992 1067. 7:30p, Dungog RSL, 100 Lord St. Tickets \$25 at door.

12-27 **"Beauty & The Beast"**

Singleton Theatrical Society Inc presents this Disney classic.

12, 13, 19, 20, 23, 26 & 27th 7:30pm, 14, 21 & 27th 2pm. Singleton Civic Centre. Queen St. Tickets: adult \$22, con \$16, family (2 adult, 2 children) \$65.00, available from Video Ezy, 129 John St, ph 6571 2008. For more details visit www.singletontheatrical.com.au

21 **Aberdeen Small Business Expo & Market Stalls**

There here will be plants, fabric, vegetables, baby wear, cards and so much more. Morning tea and lunches will be available.

8:30am to 2pm. Aberdeen Community Hall in Dangar Park, and St Mark's Hall, Segenhoe Street, both Aberdeen. For more details call the Aberdeen Information Centre on 6543 8457.

23 **"The Delight of All Persons of Reputation and Taste" Vauxhall Gardens (1661-1859)**

A lecture by Mr David E. Coke, NADFAS presented by the ADFAS Scone. 6 for 6:30 pm, Scone Arts & Craft Hall, Kingdon St, Scone. For more details call Gail on 6543 4620 or Jill on 6545 1822.

26 **"NSW 2008 Indigenous Art Prize Winners", "Naidoc Week Group Show" and "Maryanne McKinnon Kidd" Exhibitions.**

These exhibitions run until the 9th of August.

The 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.

26-28 **Ten Minute Play Festival at Bingara**

The North West Theatre Company is hosting this festival with the aims of showcasing talented school students and regional theatre companies.

26th - 11 am-1pm School Students

27th - 7:30-9:30pm Theatre Companies

28th - 2-4pm Best of the Ten Minute Plays

The Roxy, Bingara. \$5 per person per session. For information call 0428 255380.

28 **Launch of Portraits of Place Short Films**

Premiere screening of Gloucester film *What's Yours is Mine...d* and Dungog film *On the Move*. To be screened with a feature film, Dungog Cinema, Sunday afternoon.

For more details visit www.jamestheatre.com.au

July

3 **Pix from the Stix Exhibition**

This is a photographic competition with the focus on the Gloucester Shire region. The opening includes the announcement of prizes and refreshments will be provided. The exhibition runs until the 26th July.

Opening Night is the 3rd of July at 7pm. Gloucester Gallery, Dennison Street, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm, for details call 6558 3157.

14 **"William James Neatby: The Master of Harrods Meat Hall"**

A lecture by Dr Scott Anderson, ASFAV, NADFAS presented by the ADFAS Scone. 6 for 6:30 pm, Scone Arts & Craft Hall, Kingdon St, Scone. For more details call Gail on 6543 4620 or Jill on 6545 1822.

17 **Singleton Art Prize Exhibition**

This is presented by the Rotary Club of Singleton. The exhibition will run until the 22nd.

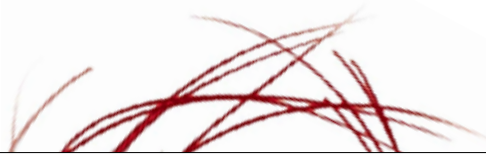
17th Opening Night & Presentation of Prizes

18th to 21st open from 10am to 6pm, and 22nd from 10am to 12pm. Singleton Civic Centre, Queen St, Singleton. For more details call Graeme on 6574 5185 or Brian on 0408 600 096.

June

Open **Sculptors and Artists Wanted**

David Mahoney Art Gallery is seeking sculptors and artists to be part of the creation of a sculpture park in Sandy Hollow. Xstrat Coal has donated 10 rocks with the work to take place in October. For full details and to express your interest in being part of this project, please contact David Mahoney on 6547 4533.



16 Pix From The Stix - entries close

A photographic competition with two sections: Junior - up to 18 yrs, and Senior - 19 yrs and over, and various genre categories. All photos must be of the Gloucester Shire and its culture.

Entry fee, \$15 Seniors, \$5 Juniors per entry. Forms available from the Gloucester Visitor's Information Centre and the Gloucester Gallery. For more details call Chris on 65582760.

26 Keddies Pastoral Photographic Prize - entries close

This inaugural prize has a prize pool of \$10,000. There are Open and Local sections, with People Choice awards in both sections. Theme is "water" - in black and white. For all details please visit <http://www.murrurundiphotographicprize.com.au/>

26 Singleton Art Prize - entries close

There is a \$10,000 prize pool. The opening night is the 17th July. Application forms will be available mid May from Brian Ellis on 0408 60 0096. Committee seeking sponsors as well, please call Brian if you are interested.

26 Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards - entries close

Searching for Stars is this year's theme for Australia's largest poetry writing competition for students, which celebrates the work of well-known Australian poet Dorothea Mackellar. Entries must be submitted online. Award entry forms, resource notes for teachers and judges' reports are available at www.dorothea.com.au

July

1 Upper Hunter Eisteddfod Dance - entries close

There are a number of categories including: Jazz, Contemporary, Classical and Tap, and the Local Dance Championship. Held 13 to 17th July. For details email Vicki, peter.riddy@hunterlink.net.au

17 Off The Wall - entries close

Australia's most unique art prize is now in its fifth year, giving artists who are not formally represented in Sydney the chance to have their work shown to an audience of over 15,000 people over four days at Sydney's only art fair. For details and entry form visit www.artoffthewall.com.au

30 Stroud Writers FAW NSW Annual Writing Competition - entries close

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. \$5 entry fee. Sent to: Competition Secretary Stroud Writers FAW NSW Inc, PO Box 4 Stroud. For more details email stroudwriters@yahoo.com.au



From the Sunwrae Ensemble performance at Dungog.

June

Open Regional Arts Fund

Grants supporting arts and cultural activities in regional NSW that are sustainable, have long term cultural, economic and social benefits, develop partnerships and cultural networks and provide skills development opportunities. Applications close 14th August. For details, call Annette Eassie on 9720 2502 or visit www.regionalartsnsw.com.au select grants.

5 Community Heritage Grants applications close

This grant program aims to preserve and provide access to nationally significant, Australian cultural heritage material held by community groups across the country. Grants up to \$15,000. For details call 02 6262 1147 or visit www.nla.gov.au:80/chg/

July

1 Accessible Arts Bundanon Residency - applications close

Artists with a disability, practicing in dance, design, digital technologies, moving image, literature, visual arts and theatre are eligible to apply. The successful applicant will undertake a four-week residency at the Bundanon properties on the Shoalhaven River in April 2010 and receive a \$3000 stipend. For details please call Josie Cavallaro on 9251 6499 or visit www.aarts.net.au/projects/bundanon-residency

grants + residencies



6 Arts NSW's 2010 Arts Funding Program - applications close

This funding is for programs and projects to be undertaken in 2010. The guidelines and applications forms are available from www.arts.nsw.gov.au

June

11 Free T-Shirt Design Workshop for Youth

Create your own design on the computer and they will print it on transfer paper for you. For youth 13 to 18 years, free pizza. Take your own light coloured T-Shirt. Bookings required. Singleton Public Library. 8-10 Queen St, Singleton. 6578 7500.

14 Sticky Tape Sculpture Workshop with Leanne Barrett

This workshop is being presented by the Dungog Arts Society. Everyone will finish a sculpture on the day. 10am to 3pm, Dungog Day Care Centre, Hospital Rd, Dungog. Fee \$50, or \$25 for members, students and pensioners, materials \$5. For details or to book, call Wendy 4992 1637, Jan 4992 3233 or Pat 4992 3304.

20&21 Miniatures/Watercolour workshop with Madeleine Syzmanski

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, limited spaces available.



Leanne Barrett's Sticky Tape Chair.

July

27 Australian Event Awards - entries close

This is the awards program for the entire events industry in Australia. It aims to reward innovation, encourage excellence and unite the industry. 23 categories. \$220 entry fee, some categories have been reduced to \$165. For more details visit www.eventawards.com.au

Create Biz - Business Assistance Program

CreateBiz is a resource to help artists to access government support programs. It provides state-by-state and national lists of business, research, innovation and export programs that may assist artists to access new sources of income. <http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/grants/createbiz/nsw>

sheri's bon mot

*" More people than ever before
in human history
want to create art
and the best
is yet to come"*

Paul Johnson

Contributions to the July 2009 edition of Artsbark closes 21st June 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.

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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