

MARCH 2008 ISSUE 33

artsbark

editor's desk	1
events + festivals	2
sheri's bon mot	5
artist opportunities	5
grants + residencies	5
not to miss	6

editor's desk

The year is off to a running start. We have been busy processing the CASP applications, and applicants will be advised in early April as to their success. The *Working with Collections* workshop took place on Saturday in Muswellbrook which is why this is a bit late getting out to you. The workshop was great and everyone seemed to get something out of the day. The other great news is that we have Pamille Berg coming to give a number of presentations and a Public Art Forum. Pamille is an expert in the process of working with Councils, architects, artists and community groups to facilitate public art projects, she is going to present a slide show on Thursday in Scone and Friday in Singleton, also on Friday there is a hands forum in Muswellbrook, that will include all the knitty gritty that public art a reality.



Pamille Berg

On the 11th February there was a public meeting in Scone to see about forming a film club and to look at the Civic Cinema. This was very well attended with people expressing a strong desire to see the Cinema up and running again and expressing their love of the building itself and the memories

that it holds. We are going to pursue the future of the building. Since then, the group of keen film enthusiasts have met again and are determining who, what, where and when with films, we hope to be able to attend their first viewing soon!



Scone Civic Cinema waiting for an audience.

Also in the Upper Hunter there has been a lot of interest and activity in developing Museums. The Museum of Rural Life committee in Aberdeen have been looking at the old Campbell's store on the main Highway, as a possible building for the museum idea they have been working on for some time now. An excursion to the *Up to Date Store* in Coolamon was arranged to have a look at how this community in the Riverina have managed to acquire an old building and develop it into a museum housing three separate exhibitions. They have also built a new library to adjoin the building and use the beautiful shop for storytelling and other activities. A cafe has been leased and they are currently attempting



to transform some outdoor space into a multi-function performance space. This is all run by volunteers with support from Council. The excursion was very useful as they were extremely generous in providing information on how they put together a series of grants that has made all of this possible. Anyone wishing to more about The Museum of Rural Life, please contact John Scriven on 6543 7117.

A writers group has started up in Singleton, they have had a couple of meetings and are hoping to have a couple of workshops later this year. The Director of the Hunter Writers Centre, Brian Joyce is going to come and do a session on how to develop a writers group that ensures all members are stretching themselves, this will be on Thursday 1st May at 5pm at the Singleton library. The group are welcoming new members.

Meanwhile in Gloucester they are singing! Last year they had an archipelago workshop that was a great success and Elizabeth who organised that, is this year starting a children's choir, while the adult choir continues. Perhaps we can look forward to a performance later this year.

Bridget Nicholson



The 'Up to Date Store' Coolamon

March

1-22 Turramurra: Baribunma-gudhing

Art by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander inmates of St Heliers Correctional Centre

Gilbert Hermon - the journey so far

Muswellbrook Regional Art Gallery, Crn Market and Bridge St, Muswellbrook. For details visit www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

1-30 Who let the dogs out

67 artists from around the country revel in the joy of doggyness and ponder the lasting connections between "man and his best friend".

Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, First Street, Booragul. Tuesday to Sunday, 10am to 5pm. Free entry. www.lakemac.com.au

6 Public Art Presentation

6.30pm Scone Arts & Crafts, come and hear renowned public art expert Pamille Berg, talk about the potential for public art to change the way we see and interact with our towns. Refreshments provided, please RSVP to Arts Upper Hunter 6545 9727 by Wed. 4th march.

7 International Women's Day breakfast

Presented by Upper Hunter Regional Libraries, guest speakers Bridget Nicholson & Pamille Berg. The theme is '100 years of active women in paid and unpaid work. 7.am Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Cnr Bridge & mMarket Sts., Muswellbrook RSVP Dion by 3rd March 6543 1913 Cost \$15

7 Public Art Forum

This event will be particularly useful to Councilors, council staff, and members of community groups interested in improving public places, artists, craftspeople, designer/makers, and stakeholders of all kinds interested in the community and surrounding region. This is a working session using projects in the area to demonstrate policy, brief writing, contracts and the technical aspects of making these things happen.

10am-4pm Muswellbrook Council Officers, 157 Maitland St., Muswellbrook. RSVP Sandra 6545 9727 by the 5th March.

7 Public Art Presentation

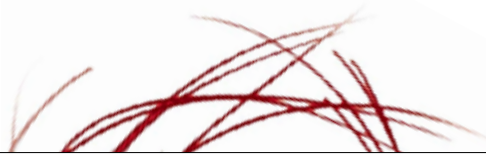
6.30pm Singleton Civic Centre, come and hear renowned public art expert Pamille Berg, talk about the potential for public art to change the way we see and interact with our towns. Refreshments provided, please RSVP to Arts Upper Hunter 6545 9727 by Wed. 4th march.

7-8 Gloucester Annual Show

2008 will be 100 years since the first show. There will be ring events ending with fireworks and the popular demolition derby. For details please call Gooch Agencies on 6558 1205.

7-9 Jazz In The Tops

This is Coolah's sixth jazz festival. It starts in the clubs and pubs, then moves to the Coolah Tops National



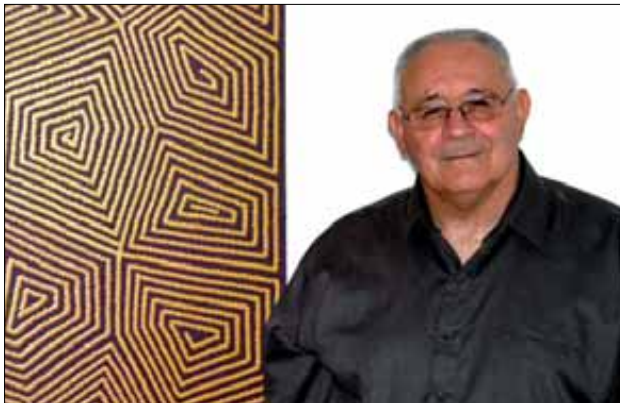
Park and then back to town, and with a range of artists it great weekend for all ages.
For more details visit www.jazzinthetops.com.au or call 1800 242 881.

8 International Women's day, Upper Hunter Shire

The evening includes dinner, a presentation by Pam Seccombe and storyboards featuring women in our shire. All women in the area are invited.
7pm St. Luke's Hall, Liverpool St., Scone tickets \$15.00 per pseron, bookings essential 6540 1142

12 Live from the Opera House to the Singelton Cinema - Carmen

Opera Australia and the Australian Film Commission will present the first live transmission of an opera from the Sydney Opera House to regional cinemas across Australia this month. On the evening of 12th March, Opera Australia's new production of Carmen, directed by Richard Hickox, will be beamed via satellite from the Sydney Opera House Opera Theatre to the eight regional cinemas in the AFC's Regional Digital Screen Network. Opera on the Big Screen will be screened free of charge to an audience of up to 7,000 people. Booking essential call 6571 5252, hurry filling fast.



Les Elvin with the work he has donated to the Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre.

15 Sydney Balalaika Orchestra in Concert at Putty

The Sydney Balalaika Orchestra will be performing at the Putty Community Hall, Putty. The program is dedicated to the folk music of Russia - played on authentic folk instruments with a large repertoire of light classical and traditional folk music. The players wear colourful costumes and play instruments believed to date back to the 12th century. The evening will commence at 6.30pm with a sausage sizzle and an opportunity to meet orchestra members, the concert

begins at 7.30pm.
Putty Hall, Putty. (408 Putty valley Road) contact Judy Hobson Phone: 02 6572 1616 or 0488 797 067 Tickets \$25.00 per person

15 Twelfth Night

Essential Theatre promises to deliver another stunning night of entertainment in their sixth year of touring Shakespeare in the Vines with Twelfth Night. Along with the sweeping natural landscapes and delectable local wines, Twelfth Night will sweep you away to the land of Illyria. Here you will be introduced to the lovesick nobleman, Duke Orsino who is pining for the love of Lady Olivia. His love, however, is unrequited, due to the morose Lady Olivia's dedication to mourning her dead brother.
Contact the Tempus Two Winery Events Team 4993 3920

15-16 Gloucester Open Gardens

Visit two beautiful gardens in the Gloucester district with morning and afternoon tea and plants for sale. All proceeds to the Hillcrest Nursing Home. For more details call Mary McLaughlan on 6558 2855.

19-21 Hungerford Hill Starlight Cinema

Hungerford hill Starlight cinema is on again this Easter. 'Cinema Sydney Style' with the magnificent Hunter Valley as a backdrop, the sloping manicured lawns and new dining terrace, Hungerford Hill is the perfect location to enjoy the latest blockbuster films on the big screen under the stars.

Wed 19 March - Death at a Funeral (M)
Thur 20 March - Elizabeth:The Golden Age (M)
Friday 21st March - The Darjeeling Limited (M)
Sat 22 March - Atonement (MA 15+)
Sat 23 March - American Gangster (MA 15+)
Hungerford Hill Winery, Broke Road Pokolbin
Phone: 02 4998 7666

21-24 Poley's Country Music Hoedown

Music in the mountains, by the Barrington River. Everything from ballads to county rock. Artists includes Errol Gray, yodelling sweetheart Kathryn Pitt and Greg Bain. There will be a talent quest, prize \$1000. For details please call Rosemary Everett 6558 4220.

22 Gloucester Community Markets

Local art and craft market stalls in Billabong Park. BBQ available. For details please call Lorraine Atkins on 6558 4361.

28 James Clifford - A Retrospective,

A local, somewhat eclectic painter with a strong spiritual and intuitive approach to his work. Clifford



won the Muswellbrook local art prize early on his career, as with many others this led onto a prolific career. He spent considerable time in India in the 1960's and 1970's which also has a significant effect on his work. A catalogue written by Geoffrey Legge will be available.

plus Roger Skinner and Owen O'Meara - The Nude: exploration and interpretations

Opening 6pm Muswellbrook Regional Art Gallery, by John McPhee. Crn Market and Bridge St, Muswellbrook. www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au Exhibition continues until 18th May.

30 Dogs Day Out @ Hunter Valley Gardens

Bring your dog and join in this fun filled event in the beautiful Hunter Valley Gardens. The day will focus on providing visitors with fun and informative "dog" related activities including exhibition stalls, expert talks, pet photography and competitions. Cost adults \$19.90 concession \$15.00



Brad Franks, the Director of the the Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre

March - April

11-7 Lesley Richman First Solo Exhibition

Gloucester Gallery, Denison St, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm, free entry. For details call 6558 3157.

April

15 Glendon Hall Market Day

Take a short trip out of town to experience true country hospitality. The Glendon Hall Market Day and Garage Sale is a great day out for all the family. A variety of stalls for you with home baked goods, bric-a-

brac, home made gifts and bargains. Also available for purchase are beverages and a sausage sizzle. 9:00am - 2:00pm Glendon Hall, (897 Glendon Lane) Singleton

8 Miss Lizzy Darbyshire BA (Hons) MA speaks on James Tissot: Master of Fashion and Frisson

Presented by the Scone Australian Decorative & Fine Arts Society (ADFAS) Scone Arts and Crafts Hall, Kindgon St, Scone, 6 for 6:30pm. Light refreshments served. For details call Gail Bragg on 6543 4620 or Jill Richards on 6545 1822.

8-14 Youth Week Exhibition

Gloucester Gallery, Denison St, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm, free entry. For details call 6558 3157.

11-13 Gum Ball Music and Arts Festival

The annual all age camping festival showcasing artists in all genres including blues roots rock world folk funk dance. This year being held at a new site in Wollombi. For details visit www.thegumball.com.au

11-14 17th Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Eisteddfod

11 - 14 April - Vocal
This is the first category of the full series including, drama, speech, band, dance and performance which will roll out from now until July. 2008 Syllabus is now available from the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music, Information Centres or visit www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

12 "a little bit of Italy in Broke"

Come and celebrate the Grape and Olive Harvests, Italian food, music, wines, and other Italian experiences. For details visit www.brokefordwich.com.au or call Wendy Lawson on 6579 1334.

12 Countryfest 2008

Come and see the Australian Wife Carrying Titles. The winning couple will receive a trip to Finland to compete at the WORLD Wife Carrying Titles. You don't have to be a married couple to enter, just as long as you bring your sense of fun. 9am - 11pm Singelton Showground, Bathurst St., Singleton (02) 6572 2039

13 Orchestra in the Chapel

TOPS (The Occasional Performing Symphonia) Orchestra from Sydney conducted by Mal Hewitt is performing. 2pm The Chapel Convent of Mercy, 30 Queen St, Singleton. For details or to book call Sr Monica Sinclair on 6572 2398.



19 Baerami Bush Dance

Bush Dance with traditional acoustic music at the wonderful Baerami Hall on the edge of the Wollemi National Park. Dances will be explained - you don't need a partner. BYO dinner and supper to share. Dancing starts after 7.30pm. Camp at the Hall or nearby accommodation. Leisurely Sunday morning guided bushwalk or bike ride. Bookings appreciated. Adults (pre-booked) \$15 Adults (at Door) \$20 Children Free.

20 Broke Community Markets

From 9:30am at McNamara Park. For stall information call Elizabeth Johnstone 0429 198 871

April-May

15-12 "Gloucester Gone to War"

An exhibition of war memorabilia from Boer War to World War II, which includes: historical photographers, medals, audio visual displays, flags, maps and uniforms. Cost adults \$5, and children \$2. Gloucester Gallery, Denison St, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm, for details call 6558 3157.

May

4 Operatic Gala with Peta Blyth and Ensemble

2pm School of Arts Merriwa. Cost \$30.00 Contact Edith Shipway for tickets 6548 7201.

8, 10, 11, 14, 16 & 17 "Run for your Wife"

Muswellbrook Amateur Theatrical Society (MATS) is performing this favourite comedy by Ray Cooney. Muswellbrook Workers Club, tickets are \$15 and available from Inspirational Imaging in Muswellbrook.

16-17 Gloucester Shakespeare Festival

There will be evening performances of Henry IV Part 1 on Friday and Saturday evenings, plus matinee performance on Saturday. A banquet is available both evenings. Market stall and medieval entertainment all day Saturday. For more information contact the Gloucester Information Centre on the 6558 1408.

March

28 Head On Entries Close

Head On Foundation invites photographers to submit work for the 2008 photographic portrait competition. Total value of prizes is approx \$32,000. For more details visit www.headon.com.au

31 Electrofringe 2008 Proposals Close

Electrofringe is a five day festival of electronic arts and culture occurring as part of This Is Not Art Festival in Newcastle 2-6 October. Organisers are calling for proposals from anybody practising in the fields of electronic, experimental or new media arts for this year's festival. For details email Alex White on alexwhite@gmail.com or visit www.electrofringe.net

April

4 2008 Dungog Film Festival Applications Close

Dedicated to promoting local films and filmmakers, Dungog Film Festival will accept feature film, short narrative, documentary, animation, film and video submissions. For entry forms and details visit www.dungogfilmfestival.org/ or call 4992 2420.

30 Poets on Wheels Applications Close

Australian's best-known poetry touring project is taking to West of the Range NSW by train 16-23 October. Selected poets will be performing and running workshops in a range of venues from pubs to schools. For more details contact the Poets Union on 02 9357 6602, or email info@poetsunion.com

March

7 Community Heritage Grants Open

The CHG Program aims to preserve and provide access to locally held, nationally significant cultural heritage collections across Australia. Grants of up to \$15,000. Community groups such as historical societies, museums and public libraries can apply. Applications close 6th June. For details visit www.nla.gov.au/chg/

28 SPARK Young Artists Mentoring Program Application Closes

Get support, training, advice and funding to focus on your creative ideas. Open to artists, 18-26 years, in theatre, dance or other art forms. For details visit www.yaq.org.au/spark

Open Arts NSW Funding Program for 2008-2009

The schedule for closing dates is available from www.arts.nsw.gov.au/Guidelines/guidelines

sheri's bon mot

Charles Balckman and John Olsen

artist opportunities

grants + residencies



not to miss

Open Australia Council Funding Program for 2008-2009

For details please visit www.ozco.gov.au/grantFinder.aspx?artformID=1

April

1 Sydney Myer Fund Small Grants Program Applications Close.

Current priority areas in the Arts and Humanities Small Grants Program includes: To build compacity, to develop new works, and to support the humanities. For full details please visit www.myerfoundation.org.au

14 FTO's Young Filmmaker Fund Applications Close

Are you aged 18-35 years and live in Regional NSW or Western Sydney? Do you have a story to tell either online or on screen. For details visit www.fto.nsw.gov.au/fund.asp?id=48

May

12 Digital Visual FX Scheme Round 13 Applications Close

Through the scheme the FTO provides on the job skills development opportunities in the digital effects industry. For details please contact Valarie Allerton on 9264 6400, or visit www.fto.nsw.gov.au/fund.asp?id=54

15 Janet Holmes a Court Artists' Grant Applications Close

This grant is designed provide financial assistance to professional artists for the public presentation of their work. For details visit www.visualarts.net.au



March

6 & 20 Singleton Writers Group

This is newly formed group meets at the Singelton Library on the every second Thursday from 5-7pm, for more details call the library on 6578 7500.

18 Photoshop Course

This course is being held from 6-9pm at the Scone Neighbourhood Resource Centre Inc, so for details please call 6545 2562 or email snrc@hunterlink.net.au

31 Pay It Forward Community Leadership Program Applications Close.

Are you an active community leader? The Communities Division of the Department of Community Services invites you to apply to participate in this innovative community leadership program. For details please call Janet Schorer on 02 9716 2836 or email Janet.Schorer@community.nsw.gov.au

Book Now - Mirko Grillini, The Travelling Italian Chef

Mirko is looking for organisations who would like to host a 2 day cooking class. Mirko originates from Bologna in Italy and has been a chef for more than 20 years. For the last 8, Mirko has been travelling around Queensland taking his unique cooking classes, teaching over 15 authentic recipes, to the outback. If your group would like to book Mirko, please contact Barb Madden on 0408 689 165 or email barbmadden@bigpond.com

April

8 Photoshop II Course

This course is being held from 6-9pm at the Scone Neighbourhood Resource Centre Inc, so for details please call 6545 2562 or email snrc@hunterlink.net.au

Artsbark is the bi-monthly publication of **Arts Upper Hunter Inc.** supported by the 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.

contact

phone (02) 6545 9727

fax (02) 6545 9837

email artsuh@bigpond.net.au

web www.artsupperhunter.com.au

PO Box 515, Scone, NSW 2337

