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AUGUST 2008 ISSUE 37

artsbark

editor's desk

It is warming to see the number of activities happening in August and September, a sure indication that spring is on the horizon. We hope to see you out and about.

This month we welcome Dungog to our region. Arts Upper Hunter have set up an Office in Dungog at 96 Dowling Street, ph 4992 1033 and I am based there, while Sandra will be keeping the Scone office running. Anyone in the Dungog area please feel free to drop in and introduce yourself and your interests. I have recently discovered that the hill on your left as you approach Dungog from Maitland is called Hollywood Hill, it seems that Dungog's connection to the film industry predates the film festival in more ways than one. May it live on and prosper.



Hollywood Hill, Dungog

We hope to be able to introduce our new Dungog board members shortly .

At the beginning of July we had Elizabeth Rogers from Regional Arts NSW tour the region. She came to meet people and provide information on what she does in Sydney that

relates to the here and now. Her visit also enabled her to gain an understanding of the cultural landscape of the Hunter Valley, something which we know to be hugely diverse and constantly changing. I know that Elizabeth thoroughly enjoyed her time here and has gone back having made important connections. To that end she has been convinced to come back and open the Scone Art prize at the Scone Arts & Crafts on Friday 12th September.

To build on the business of the next few months we at Arts Upper Hunter have decided that what people in this region could benefit from is some networking. Networking is one of those precarious things that can be perceived as 'dirty business', especially in a country that still grapples with the tall poppy syndrome. However through my role I continuously speak to people who feel disconnected and often simply out of the loop - things are going on that they don't know about but would like to - they really want to do more of their 'stuff' but don't know if there are others out there interested, and so on. In order to provide an opportunity for people to get together and meet others we will be putting on a series of events, one in each local government area. These events will be geared towards having a good time, and meeting interesting people. They won't be passive, they will be entertaining and provide plenty of opportunities for you to engage and participate, you may even be required to step momentarily out of your comfort zone. These events are in the design stage so any insights or suggestions welcome.

"It was just like the logies", Les Elvin. Congratulations Les. Les went to Canberra last week as a finalist in the National NAIDOC Awards and came home as the **Artist of the Year for 2008**. This is a highly competitive award with over 100 entries. Many of us have had the pleasure of interacting with Les Elvin through his own art work and also through the work he has been doing in setting up an art group with the inmates at St. Helliers. This group exhibited at the Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre in February this year. It is wonderful to see Les recognised for both his art and the



work that he does with his art; in teaching others, sharing culture and raising funds in particular for Aboriginal Health.

Bridget Nicholson



Les Elvin *Spirit of the Moonlight* 2007 Muswellbrook Shire Art Collection photograph by Kelie Tym 2008 courtesy Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre.

August

1 A Lunch of Crime with Michael Robotham & Leah Giarratano.

Michael and Leah will speak at a free lunch. Their books will be on sale.
11:30 am to 1pm. Singleton Library, 8-10 Queen St. Phone 6578 7500. Bookings essential.

1-3 Caledonification by Steve Fraser

Steve says his tartan abstracts depict events which define a weather-beaten nation, who lived, loved, fought, bled and died in their colours. Their's was a journey of defiance.
Artemis of Aberdeen, 93 MacQueen St, Aberdeen.
Open Thursday to Monday, 10am to 5pm or by appointment. For details call 6543 8023

1 Liminal

Seven artists working in different media explore the limen, the moment between night and day. Runs until 7th September.
Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Deerubbin Centre, (1st floor) 300 George St, Windsor. Phone 4560 4441. Open Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm. Closed Tuesday and public holidays.

1-10 "Textures"

Artists being showcased are: Joan Hall-Jones, Bridget Nicholson, Kym Carlslake, Carol Ray Charlotte Drake-

Brokeman & Boolarng Nangamai Aboriginal Art Studio. Haydon Hall, 66 Mayne Street, Murrurundi. Open Wednesday to Sunday from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Phone 6546 6969 or visit www.haydonhall.com.au

2 "Essentially Landscape" Opening

This exhibition by Ros Auld, features ceramic vessels, wall sculptures and works on paper. It runs until 1st September.
Cudgegong Gallery, 102 Herbert St, Gulgong. 6374 1630. Open daily, 10.00am-5.30pm.

7 Naked Ambition

An exhibition by Aberdeen artist DJ Strief at the Art at Home Gallery. Runs until the 27th August. Opening 6 to 8pm. 467 Darling St, Balmain. 9555 5073 open Thursday to Sunday, 11am to 5pm.

8 Frances Watts and David Legge, Author Talk

Frances and David will be talking about Parsley Rabbit's, Book About Book. Everyone welcome including schools groups. This is part of the Book Alive 08 program.
10:30 to 11:30am. Singleton Library, 8-10 Queen St. Phone 6578 7500, there is no charge to attend.

13 "Making Stuff" Opening

This exhibition is a 20 year retrospective of the eclectic works of Charlotte Drake-Brokeman. It will run until the 14th of September.
Haydon Hall, 66 Mayne Street, Murrurundi. 6:30pm, light refreshments will be available. Open Wednesday to Sunday from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm. 6546 6969. www.haydonhall.com.au

14 Debra Adelaide, Author Talk

Debra is the author of "The Household Guide to Dying" which she wrote after being diagnosed with cancer. This is part of the Book Alive 2008 program.
6-8pm, Singleton Library, 8-10 Queen St. Phone 6578 7500. Includes light supper. Bookings essential.

16 "Burning of the Canes" Dinner

This is an occasion to celebrate the changing of the seasons: the end of last year's growth preparing for the birth of the next. It is complete with a huge bonfire, an amazing flame throwing performance and musical entertainment by soloist, Ella Bee.
Max's Restaurant, Arrowfield Estate, Golden Highway, Jerrys Plains. 6:30 pm for 7:00pm. \$85 per ticket, includes 3 course dinner & wine. Book on 6576 4000.

17 'Music by the Fireside'

Mozart, Beethoven, Haydn, and other music of Vienna performed in the Reception Room by 'Mozart Plus', Robert Harris on viola, Teri Singer on violin and Dorit

Herskovits on double bass.
2pm, Sisters of Mercy Convent, 30 Queen Street, Singleton. Tickets \$20 adults, \$15 concession, \$2 school students (includes afternoon tea). For information or bookings call Sr Monica Sinclair 6572 2398 or visit www.sacredspaces.org.au

19 Those Mitford Girls

Lecture is being presented by the Scone ADFAS and the guest speaker is Susanna Fullerton BA M Sc(Arts) Scone Arts and Craft Hall, 6:30pm, for more details call Gail on 6543 4620 or Jill on 6545 182.

5-25 Local Primary School Exhibiton

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

22 50 Years of the Muswellbrook Art Collection 1958-2008 Opening

This exhibition is being curated by Katrina Rumley and runs until the 5th October.

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

23 Accord Trio Concert

The trio comprises violin, cello and piano, and the programme being presenting is a celebration and dances of Europe and South America. The trio have been performing together for about 3 years. You are invited to take wine and nibbles.

Gloucester Senior Citizens Hall, Tickets \$15, for members of GACCI \$12. Available from Gloucester Health Shop.

27 Son of a Lion screening at Singleton.

Set in Pakistan, this is the story of a boy who wants to go to school rather than go into the family business of gun-making.

6:15pm for refreshments, Majestic Cinemas, 21 Ryan Ave, Singleton. \$10 single / \$7 each for a group of five or more. Available from 19th, phone 6571 5252.

29 Paula Cole Exhibition Opening

An exhibition of fresh and primary mosaics. For a sneak preview visit peachtreemosaics.com The exhibition runs until 21st September.

2pm, drinks and nibbles. Gloucester Gallery, Denison St, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm, for details call 6558 3157.

30-31 Folk Biz 08

Folk Alliance of Australia presents a weekend conference for those who keep the folk industry's wheels turning.

Sydney Mechanic' School of Arts, 280 Pitt St. For details and to register visit www.folkalliance.org.au, places limited, so first in best dressed.

September

5-20 Gloucester Art Trail

3 weekends, 24 venues in Stroud, Gloucester, Barrington, Copeland and Dyers Crossing, the Gloucester Art Trail will showcase the diverse artistic talents of our region featuring photography, sculpture, painting, porcelain, ceramics, fine furniture, floral art and indigenous art. For details contact Leanne Barrett on 6558 3157 or 0428 508 704.

12 "Art in the Vines" Opening Night

Now into it's ninth year, Art in the Vines is a judged exhibition of art work in the following areas: Paintings, Pottery, Sculpture, Australian Indigenous works, Photography as well as a children section. Attracts around 250 exhibitors from across NSW. Runs through to 14th Sept.

7pm, \$15 ticket, includes finger food and wine.

Nightingales Winery, 1239 Milbrodale Road Broke. 13th & 14th 10am to 3pm, free entry. For details call Maxine Alexander 6579 1036 or Paul Danks 6579 1000.

12 Scone Art Prize Opening

With guest speaker Elizabeth Rogers and Judge Ken Strong. The exhibition will run until 21st September. 7pm Scone Arts & Crafts Hall, Kingdon St, Scone. \$10, includes refreshments. Open 10am to 4pm on 13, 14, 16, 17, 19 & 20th, 10am to 4pm on 15th, 10am to 8pm on 18th, 10am to 2pm on 21st. Entry fee \$2.

12 Dungog Arts Society Art Exhibition

Official opening 7.30pm. The judge is Suzanne Sommer. Anglican Hall, 51 Dowling St., Dungog. Open Saturday 10am-4pm, Sunday 10am - 3pm.

21 "Beauty of the World" Concert

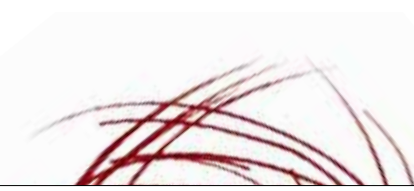
The Dungog Warblers will be focusing on the songs of Denis Kevans and the music of Sonia Bennett, performed by Sonia. Bring a chair, refreshments will be available. Proceeds to the local landcare group.

Bandon Grove Hall, Chichester Dam Rd, Dungog. (approx 10 ks out of town). Tickets will be available from the Dungog Information Centre or at door. For details call Helen on 4995 9324.

28 'Choir in the Chapel'

The University of Newcastle Chamber Choir directed by Philip Matthias (winners of the 2006 ABC FM Choral Competition) performs in the Chapel.

2pm, Sisters of Mercy Convent, 30 Queen Street, Singleton. Tickets \$20 adults, \$15 concession,



\$2 school students (includes afternoon tea). For information or bookings call Sr Monica Sinclair 6572 2398 or visit www.sacredspaces.org.au

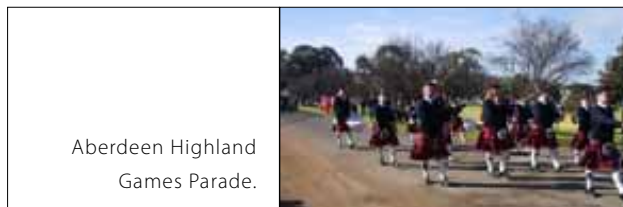
October

2-5 art at the heart 2008

This is Regional Arts Australia's National Conference and includes a dynamic program of visual and performing arts, vital discussions and exchanges about the country's artistic life, with a particular focus on regional Australia.

Alice Springs, NT. For full details including cost, visit www.artattheheart.com.au or call 08 8951 1152.

Registrations closes 15th September.



Aberdeen Highland Games Parade.

August

10 Reelife Film Festival 2008 Entries Close

Run by youth for youth, Reelife provides a platform for young people to tell their stories and communicate their thoughts on issues that are important to them.

Open to anyone 25 or younger. All genres and styles accepted: documentaries; dramas; comedies; experimental films and animations.

For nomination form visit <http://www.reelifilmfestival.net/>

14 Wollombi Valley Short Film Festival Entries Close.

Any genre, 10 mins or under. Total prize pool \$1250. Entry forms available from www.valleyartists.org, or Wollombi General Store.

14 deLiver Postcards from the periphery

Be part of the inaugural super-inter-regional art postcard swap lucky dip. All you have to do is live in regional Australia, make a postcard and send it to Alice Springs. All will be displayed at the "art in the heart" conference and at the end you will sent another postcard back. For details <http://www.jenjen.com.au/deLiver/>

15 St Martins Emerging Playwrights' Competition Entries Close

Open to all Australian playwrights aged 13 to 25. The winning entries will receive public readings and

dramaturgical assistance.

Entry free, dramaturgical fee [optional] \$50. For details and to download a form visit <http://www.stmartinsyouth.com.au/> or call 03 9867 2477.

11 41st Annual Raymond Terrace Art Show Entries Close

A range of categories including: painting, watercolour, oil or acrylic & miniature etc with a total prize pool of over \$6500.

For details call Ellen Gordon on 4987 4534 or Babette Armstrong on 4987 1424 or email elgordo110@hotmail.com

22 Art in the Vines Entries Close

A range of categories including: painting, pottery, sculpture, photography, indigenous etc, with a total prize pool of over \$5000. All items must be for sale, and commission is 15%.

Entry fee \$5 or \$2 for children per painting, limit of 6. For pottery & sculpture items up to \$99, entry is \$2, over \$100 fee is \$5, limit of 8. For details & entry form call Paul Danks on 6579 1000.

25 Scone Art Prize Entries Close

A range of categories including: landscape, painting, sculpture, ceramics & photography. Over \$7000 in prizes. For an entry form and details, please contact Betty Lambly 6543 7160, or PO Box 151, Scone.

25 2009 International Biennial of Media Art Proposals Close.

Experimenta will be commissioning new works for up to \$6,000 each to be included in their exhibition of exceptional Australian and international media artworks. Successful proposals for the commissions will respond to the exhibition theme, Experimentopia, and engage audiences, use technology creatively, and can be audio/visual, installation, or object-based. For details visit www.experimenta.org

29 Portia Geach Memorial Award Applications Close.

\$18,000 is presented to a female artist each year for the best portrait painted from life of a person distinguished in the Arts, Letters or Sciences. Petrea Salter, Cauz Group on 9144 2415 download the application form: http://www.trust.com.au/awards/portia_geach/

September

1 Dungog Arts Society Annual Art Exhibition Entries Close.

A range of categories and awards including: landscape, 3D works, youth and photography. Total prize money

\$2,400. For enquiries call Wendy Grahame, 4992 1637.

26 The Examiner Port Stephens Literature Awards Entries Close.

For short stories up to 2500 words on any theme. \$1000 in prize money. \$5 Entry fee, for details call Geoff Walker 4982 4095.



Elizabeth Rogers of Regional Arts NSW & Joanne Van Hees of Scone Arts & Crafts. Photo courtesy of the Scone Advocate.

August o

8 \$10,000 Siganto Travel Art Scholarship Applications Close.

This is a biennial bursary providing professional development opportunities through travel, open to emerging practitioners in the fields of visual arts, craft and design. Open to members of Artworkers, but if not a member, now might be the time to join.

For details contact Sofie Ham on 1300 780 291 or visit www.artworkers.org

14 Regional Arts Fund (NSW) Applications Close

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.

Guidelines and conditions available from Regional Arts NSW website, www.regionalartsnsw.com.au, select Grants.

15 Janet Holmes à Court Grant Applications Close

Grants of \$500 for individuals and \$1,000 for groups are available to assist towards the costs of public presentation of visual arts, craft and design.

<http://www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/vcags>

September

1 Don't DIS my Ability 2008 - Small Arts Grants Applications Closes.

International Day of People With a Disability (IDPWD) is designated by the United Nations to celebrate the talents, skills and abilities of people with a disability. Small grants of up to \$500 are available for organisations and art workers in relation with events for this year's campaign.

Register your arts event or project to be included in the full colour printed program distributed statewide. For details visit Accessible Arts at www.aarts.net.au or call Josie Cavallaro on 9251 6499 (ext 4).

1 Visions Of Australia Applications Close

The Visions of Australia program (the Program) is the Australian Government's national touring exhibitions funding program. It assists eligible organisations to develop and tour exhibitions of Australian cultural material throughout Australia. Funding is available for both development and touring costs.

For details visit http://www.arts.gov.au/arts/visions_of_australia

1 Community Partnerships Applications Close

Partnership Development (category A) - Community Partnerships. Up to \$5000 to assist artists, groups, or organisations to undertake further development and/or extension of effective partnerships.

Key Partnerships - Community Partnerships. To assist organisations to deliver major community arts and cultural development outcomes, which have a diverse range of confirmed cross-sectoral partners.

For details visit http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/grants/community_partnerships

2 Your Eyes Only Applications Close

Your Eyes Only is a competition for young Australians aged 12 to 15 years. Submit a creative piece of work that shows the positive things about your community through your eyes. This is an opportunity to donate \$3000 to a community group of your choice.

For entry form or more information, please call 03 9670 5436 or visit www.youngaustralians.org

5 Asialink Arts Residency Program 2009 Applications Close.

This program provides an opportunity for Australian artists to spend up to four months living and working in an Asian country. The program provides a grant of up to \$12,000 towards travel, living and project expenses.

visit: <http://www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/artsresidencies>



September

30 James N Kirby Foundation Applications Close

Grants are available for charitable, educational and technical bodies throughout Australia in the areas of health, education, technology and science, art and literature. Organisations must have DGR status. \$100,000 available, average grant is \$10,000. Call 9212 2711 for an application form.

sheri's bon mot

I knew the community had accepted me

when some said

you're' weird'

to my face

Francis Graham

Kristina Olsen touring regional NSW

World renowned American folk singer is planning a tour of regional NSW in September, October and November of this year. A fine instrumentalist (acoustic guitar, steel-body slide guitar, saxophone, concertina and piano) as well as a powerful songwriter with a big bluesy voice. For details see www.kristinaolsen.net
To organise for Kristina to perform at a venue near you, contact Angela Nauck on 0405 409 903 or email angelanauck@hotmail.com

Compassionate Mandala touring regional NSW

A group of Tibetan monks and musician Tenzin Choegyaly are touring Australia. They offer a program of Sand Mandala creation, Harmonic Chanting, Tibetan Singing, Cultural Workshops, Guided Meditations, Tibetan Art of Divination and the Compassionate Mandala - Sacred Dance Sacred Music Concert. To organise a perform contact Tenzin on 0401 091 619 or visit www.tenzinchoegyaly.com

What's My Plan? by Dr Sharron Dickman

This free step-by-step guide provides useful information on how to develop arts marketing plans. The publication covers: Reviewing the basics, choosing your goals, making it happen etc
To download your free copy go to http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/publications/market_and_audience_development/whats_my_plan

'DANCENSW magazine, Winter Edition 2008'

Is now available online, at <http://www.dance.net.au/>

August - September

5-17 PSP51304 Diploma of Government (Project Management) Planning for Arts & Cultural Development Course.

This is a combination of classroom-based training, mentorship, and practical industry excursions. Held Tues & Wednesdays for 7 weeks. (& Thursday 7th August), 9am to 5pm. Carrington, Newcastle. For full details 02 9318 1222 or email admin@learninglab.com.au

17 - 21 Drama Workshops for Kids

This is for 7-13 year olds, and is being conducted by Maureen Hjorth & Christine Pettit. The workshops will be fun filled and will result in a play being preformed for family and friends.
Gloucester Public School Hall, \$50 per person, limited spaces, so book at Health Food Store in Church St Gloucester.

31- 20 Exploring Nature Children's Artworkshops

This is for 7-12 year olds and is being conducted by Anne Fisher.
Saturdays, 2-4pm, Catbird Gallery, Dowling Street, Dungog. For details call Helen Graham on 4992 2442.

Contributions to the September edition of Artsbark closes the 21st August. 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 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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