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FEBRUARY 2010 ISSUE 56

# artsbark

## editor's desk

This is the time of year when everyone is thinking CASP and planning what they might do in 2010. I have had a number of people contact me with some really good ideas which we hope to see come to fruition. Please remember that you do need to talk to Bridget about your proposal before putting in the application, as this is one of the grant requirements. There are extra funds available this year as a one off so please make the most of it. **Applications close 12th February.**

There are still a couple of 2009 CASP projects happening, one in Singleton *'Perform' - a series of performances workshops* this will be in February, dates not finalised until school goes back, but contact Carey at the Singleton Youth Venue 6571-4687 for more information. There is also a watercolour workshop with Patrick Shirvington on Feb. 6th 10am-3pm in Dungog call Pat Staker for more information 4992 3304.

This year Arts Upper Hunter will be running a series of professional development forums for artists across the region. The first of these will be focusing on Regional Galleries and how artists can work with them, called *Regional Galleries Demystified* it will be held on Wednesday 24th Feb. 2-5pm at Hadyon Hall, Mayne Sr. Murrurundi. Guest speakers will be Sandra McMahon director Tamworth Regional Gallery, Kent Buchanan Curator Western Plains Cultural Centre, Ron Ramsey director Newcastle Regional Art Gallery. Cost will be \$20 and numbers will be limited so please contact our office to reserve a place. More information available on [www.artsupperhunter.com.au](http://www.artsupperhunter.com.au) under projects. Artists with particular areas of interest they would like addressed in these forums, please contact us soon so we can make sure to cover.

For artists there is also a workshop being held in Tamworth on the Wednesday before (17th Feb), the *Artist Business Workshop* put on by the Australian Business Arts Foundation, [www.abaf.org.au](http://www.abaf.org.au) for further information and to register.

Arts Upper Hunter is also starting to work on the development of a play about shiftwork. Funded by the Commonwealth Government through their Regional Arts

Fund, an Australian Government initiative supporting the arts in regional and remote Australia. This is a two year project which involves the engaging of a playwright to undertake a residency in the community and work with community members in the development of a script, this will then be turned into a full scale production. The project is being managed by Arts Upper Hunter with assistance from an advisory group. Information will be posted on our website and through local media.



Bridget Nicholson *'touch this earth lightly'* Muswellbrook Arts Centre Nov. 2009. Photo courtesy Kellie Tyme

For those who may choose to take slightly less physical, but no less interactive, engagement in the arts, you could have your feet wrapped in clay. This is an ongoing project that Bridget Nicholson is undertaking which started as part of the Williams' River valley Artists Project, where artists came together to respond to the proposed damming of the Williams River (Tillegra Dam). As part of the exhibition at



the Muswellbrook Arts Centre in October/November last year Bridget invited people to become part of the project by letting her wrap their feet in clay to make individualised impressions/shoes symbolising their desire that we collectively treat our environment with more care and sensitivity. Bridget has done sessions at Muswellbrook, Gloucester and Gulgong and is available for booking. To find out more email [touchthisearthlightly@bravo.net.au](mailto:touchthisearthlightly@bravo.net.au). Arts Upper Hunter is supporting this project by providing Bridget with some time to further develop and 'do more feet'.

You may wish to sit and listen rather than have someone play with your feet, in which case why not join ADFAS (the Association of Australian Decorative & Fine Arts Societies). ADFAS is an umbrella organisation of 34 societies across Australia. The Scone group organise a series of lectures; 6 with International and 2 Australian lecturers each year. The first lecture for 2010 is being given by Mrs Valerie Woodgate who is a lecturer and guide at the Tate Modern and Tate Britain. The lecture topic '*Man's Best Friend; horse in art and history*'. Annual membership is \$110 for which you can attend all 8 lectures and enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles afterwards, a chance to meet people and talk to the lecturer. Most lectures are held at the Scone Arts and Crafts. For further detail contact membership secretary Jill Richards 6545 1822.

## February

### The New Muswellbrook Australia Day Acquisitive Photographic Award

Exhibition runs until the 28th of February. 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.

### 3 A Point of View

This exhibition features works by: Charlotte Drake-Brockman, Teresa Byrne, Alison Hodges and Fran Wachtel. The official opening is on Friday 5th Feb. at 6.30pm Haydon Hall, 66 Mayne St., Murrurundi Hrs 10am -5pm Wed.-Sun. ph 6546 6969

### 5 Stories from the Archive - Hadyn Wilson Survey Exhibition

The work examines extinct plants mainly through fossils, and recreates them as images within narrative landscapes. Many of the references for the project have been taken from local fossil sites in the Hunter Valley such as the famous Talbrager site near Gulgong, NSW. Opening Sat. 13th at 6pm Gallery Hours Tuesday -Sunday 10am -4pm

15 Vincent St., Cessnock ph 4991-6619

### 5-28 HSC Body of Works Gloucester Gallery

Denison St., Gloucester  
Open 10am -4pm Fri, Sat, Sun.  
Contact Leanne 0428 508704 or 02 6558 3157

### 18 An Evening with Greg Wilson

Internationally acclaimed artist Greg Wilson, of Pokolbin, will be talking about his life and how an awful car accident led him to pick up old interests in the arts and develop this into a career. The function is being presented by *The Vitual Men's Shed* and the *Upper Hunter Museum of Rural Life Inc.* St Mark's Hall, Aberdeen BBQ starting 6.30pm. Please book with the Scone Neighbourhood Centre 6545 2562 by the 10th Feb.

### 27 Week in Serenity

This is a comedy, written by Georgie Wallace, which made it's premier in Sydney last November. It is about 4 women, who do not know each other, who go to a health resort. 7:45pm Gloucester Senior Citizen. Tickets on sale at the Gloucester Health Food Store, Denison St., Gloucester.

## March

### 5 Sobs and Songs

The launch of the book *The Inconvenient Child*, by author Lindsay Lewis, with Sharyn Killens the inspiration for the book. Muswellbrook Library 126 Bridge St., Muswellbrook ph: 6543 1913

### 5 2009 Archibald Prize

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

### 5-28 Youth Week Exhibition

Gloucester Gallery, Denison St., Gloucester  
Open 10am -4pm Fri, Sat, Sun.  
Contact Leanne 0428 508704 or 02 6558 3157

### 14 The 22nd Muswellbrook Open Photographic Award

Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre  
Opening night 6pm Friday 13th March  
Cnr of Bridge and Market Sts, Tuesday to Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm, Sunday 2pm – 5pm ph 6549 3880.

### 20 SAMS Double Bill at the Civic Centre Singleton

Piano virtuoso *Gerard Willems* will play Schumann's 'Carnaval' also Beethoven and Gershwin. The *Lake Macquarie Trio* will perform Dvorak's 'Dumky' and

Haydn's 'Gypsy'. Tickets on sale from Feb 1 at Video Ezy, John St., Singleton.  
Performance starts 7.30pm at the Singleton Civic Centre.

## sheri's bon mot

*"the difference between an amateur and professional writer is the amount of drafts you are prepared to do"*

Pamela Freeman

### 19,20 120th Annual Upper Hunter Show

Pavilion classes include School and Open Handicraft; Photography; Needlework; Cookery; Cake Decorating; Horticulture; Agriculture; and of course the Art section. Entries close Wed. 10th March, Muswellbrook Show Ground. Ph: Jenny Webster 6541 201

## February

### 5 The 22nd Muswellbrook Photographic Award – entries close

This Award is open to Australian residents. The Open Prize is \$6,000 (acquisitive). For details visit the Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre at [www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au](http://www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au) or call 6549 3880.

### 19 Kathleen Mitchell Award For Young Writers

The Kathleen Mitchell Award is a biennial Award dedicated to encouraging young Australian authors. The prize is \$7,500. To be eligible for this award, you should be under 29 at the time of your book's first publication, and be a resident of Australia. For more details [www.trust.com.au/philanthropy/awards/kathleen\\_mitchell/](http://www.trust.com.au/philanthropy/awards/kathleen_mitchell/)

### 26 Art Monthly Australian Emerging Writers Award

Art Monthly Australia Emerging Arts Writers' Award asks budding voices to respond to the theme of Art + Community. The Award is open to Australian residents but you can write about work from any nation or era. [www.artmonthly.org.au/](http://www.artmonthly.org.au/)

## March

### 1 4th Dungog Film Festival calling for submissions

All genres are welcomed. Entries must be Australian made. The festival will be held 27th to 30th of May

2010. For details and application forms visit [www.dungogfilmfestival.org/](http://www.dungogfilmfestival.org/)

### 1 NAVA Art & Australia Contemporary Art Award

The Art & Australia Contemporary Art Prize is an acquisitive prize open to Australian and New Zealand artists who are within the first five years of their professional practice. Four artists are selected annually with their work featured on the back cover of Art & Australia, accompanied by a profile of their practice. [www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/ANZ\\_AA](http://www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/ANZ_AA)

### 5 Colleen Art Award Cowra Regional Art Gallery

Acquisitive award for artwork in any painting medium including acrylic, watercolour or collage/mixed media (only if paint remains the dominant medium). The Colleen Art Award is open to artists living and working in Australia and is made possible by the generous support of the Colleen Trust. [www.cowraartgallery.com.au](http://www.cowraartgallery.com.au)

### 10 A Brush with Verse, Tenterfield Art Prize

An prize for artwork of any medium based on some lines of poetry or song. There is also a poetry competition. Total prize pool is \$4000, and includes a \$1,500 Shire Acquisition award. The show is open from the 25th March to 25th April at the Forest to Furniture Gallery, Tenterfield.



Will Sneddon *Lovedale Chair*, Cessnock Young Artist Award 2009. Photo Bruce Wilson Cessnock Advertiser

## February

### 5 DEWHA Programs - applications close

The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts have a number of interesting grants particularly for Indigenous groups. For details please visit [www.arts.gov.au/Indigenous](http://www.arts.gov.au/Indigenous)



- 5 2009/10 Community Development Grants Program (Sponsorship)**  
The grants are for special events such as annual festivals and major cultural events. \$5000. Visit [http://crc.nsw.gov.au/services/grants/sponsorship\\_grants](http://crc.nsw.gov.au/services/grants/sponsorship_grants)
- 12 Country Arts Support Program - apps close**  
Grants of up to \$3000 are available for projects, with funds primarily covering professional artist fees, travel and accommodation. For details visit [www.regionalartsnsw.com.au](http://www.regionalartsnsw.com.au) or call Arts Upper Hunter.
- 15 Janet Holmes a Court Artist's Grant- apps close**  
Grants to provide assistance towards the costs of public presentation of visual arts, craft and design. \$500 for individuals, and \$1,000 for groups. For details visit [www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/vcags](http://www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/vcags)
- 15 Festivals Australia - apps close**  
Funding program designed to assist the presentation of arts and cultural activities at Australian regional and community festivals. Further information information at [www.arts.gov.au/arts/festivals\\_australia](http://www.arts.gov.au/arts/festivals_australia), or contact 1800 819 461 (freecall).
- 15 The Marketing Grant for NSW Artists**  
This is to assist professional visual artists and craftpeople in NSW to effectively promote and market their work throughout NSW, interstate and overseas. Grants of up to \$1250 (plus GST) are available for individuals, \$2500 (plus gst) are available for groups. visit [www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/marketing](http://www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/marketing).

## March

- 29 Small Grants for Small Rural Community Program - apps close**  
Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal small grants program for small rural Australian. Grants of up to \$5000 are available. There are nominated areas of focus please refer to the website [www.frrr.org.au/programsDetail.asp](http://www.frrr.org.au/programsDetail.asp)



The Messiah, 2009  
Sue Davis, Jill Carter,  
Javier Vilarino  
  
Photo Robyn Bray

## February

- 1 Workshops Cessnock Regional Gallery**  
The Gallery has a full program of day and night time classes for adults and children. from 1 Feb - 26 march , including, life drawing, botanical illustration, siler smithing and lots more. Ph: 4991 6619 for details.
- 11 Oil Painting for Beginners**  
Maitland Regional Gallery, - with gwendolin Lewis, Thursdays 9-12noon, bookings essential ph 49609193
- 17 Artist Business Workshop - Tamworth**  
Designed to strengthen your business skills and help you build a sustainable art practice. This practical workshop includes presentations by industry experts, leading visual artists, gallery professionals and arts managers. [www.abaf.org.au](http://www.abaf.org.au)  
Contact Jennifer Innes 03 9616 0314 to register.
- 24 Regional Galleries Demystified**  
A forum exploring the various ways in which Regional Galleries work, how they program their content and work with artists. Panel members Sandra MacMahon, Ron Ramsey, Kent Buchanan. Ph Arts Upper Hunter to register 6545 9727, email [admin@artsupperhunter.com.au](mailto:admin@artsupperhunter.com.au).

## March

- 3 Making Dollars and internet sense - e-marketing and financial know-how for creative professionals**  
Industry and Investment NSW are presenting this free workshop for creative professionals. 8.45-4.30 pm. Contact Suzette Gaff on 02 4908 7340 or email to [suzette.gaff@business.nsw.gov.au](mailto:suzette.gaff@business.nsw.gov.au). East Maitland Bowling Club, Bank Street, East Maitland
- 25,26 Arts Activated National Conference**  
The second Accessible Arts conference aimed at bringing together those passionate about the arts and disability sector to come together. For full program see [www.aarts.net.au](http://www.aarts.net.au)

workshops + conferences

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