



JANUARY 2009 ISSUE 43

artsbark

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editor's desk

Welcome to the January 2009 edition of Artsbark, the edition that wasn't going to be, however the large number of artist opportunities and events coming up in January convinced Bridget and I to put pen to paper.

AUH has had a good response to the opening of the 2009 Country Arts Support Program. In 2008, CASP supported 9 projects in the Upper Hunter region including the Broke Fordwich Tourism Association's "Folk in Broke" festival, the Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Eisteddod's presentation of "La Serva Padronna", and the Warrah Writers with a "Memoir Workshop". Applications for CASP 2009 round closes on the 13th of February so there is still plenty of time. This is for projects taking place between 10th of April 2009 and 9th April 2010. For more details please see the entry under Grants and Residences section of this Artsbark, or visit Regional Arts NSW website, at www.regionalartsnsw.com.au

The board and staff of Arts Upper Hunter took the opportunity to thank Roger Hale for his support and contributions over the past 6 years, at the board meeting held early December at Dungog. Roger has been a board member since AUH's incorporation and the chair since 2004. Following Roger's resignation, Stuart St Hill has been elected the acting chair until the AGM in March. AUH also looks forward to welcoming 2 new board members at that meeting. Cr Claire Pfister-Paradise has been appointed by the Upper Hunter Shire Council as their representative and Cr Karen Portolan appointed by the Muswellbrook Shire Council. AUH thanks the outgoing council representative board members, Leo Walsh and Cr Jennifer Lecky for their many years of support and wish them and Roger all the very best for the future.

Finally, just a reminder, the Dungog office is closed for January, and the Scone office will be open 9am to 5pm Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Sandra Reichel



Roger Hale and Cr Ian Llyod at the dinner that followed the December board meeting.

January

- 3 Opening of the Recent Acquisitions 2006 - 2008 & the Leica Photography Exhibitions.**
These exhibitions will run until the 8th February. Opening 6pm. 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.
- 3 Opening of "Working with Wood"**
This exhibition by Peter Blanchard, is a combination of contemporary fine furniture and evocative sculpture, with the wood for many of the pieces coming from the Gloucester region. The exhibition closes on the 1st of February. Opening 2pm. Gloucester Art Gallery, Denison Street. Open Friday to Sunday 10am to 4pm. Free entry. For more details call 6558 3157.
- 3 Wildlife Photographer of The Year 2008**
This exhibition consists of 80 photographs selected from thousands of entries from over 80 countries

events + festivals



and from both talented amateur and professional photographers. The exhibition closes 8th March. Australia Museum, 6 College St, Sydney. Free entry. 9:30am to 5pm, daily. For details call 9320 6000 or visit <http://www.australianmuseum.net.au/visiting/general/>

24 Opera at the Tops, Twilight Soiree

Opera Hunter and The Barrington Country Retreat presents this wonderful night covering Opera Pop to Music Theatre. The performers include: Angela Black, Jacquelyn Brown, Rob Dennis, Michael Saunders and Josephine Tan. 2 x 30 minute sets. 6pm, The Barrington Country Retreat, Chichester Dam Rd, Dungog. Tickets \$35 includes canapes and sparkling wine. Dinner available afterwards, as well as 3 to 4.5 star accommodation packages. Bookings essential. For details or to book, please ring 4995 9269 or visit www.thebarringtons.com.au

24 Singleton Farmers Market and quality Arts and Craft

A wide range of produce stalls including fresh foods, pottery, toys, jewellery, soaps etc. 8am to 1pm. Singleton Showground, Cnr York and Bathurst St, Singleton. For enquiries or to book a stall call 4930 5156.

25 Mururrundi Monthly Markets - Australia Day Markets

Lots of stalls and fun activities for the whole family. Great location with shade, park, museum and visitors centre near by. 8am to 4pm. Wilson Memorial Oval, Mayne St Murrurundi. For enquiries or bookings call Robyn on 6546 6009 or Dorothy on 6546 6168.

26 Upper Hunter Shire Photographic Competition Exhibition.

An exhibition and presentation of the Upper Hunter Shire Photographic Competition will be held as part of the Australia Day celebrations. 10am. Merriwa Sports Club, King George V Ave. For more details call Kate at the Upper Hunter Shire Council on 6548 2109.

30 & 31 Tales of Tocal

A theatrical experience at twilight set amongst the buildings of Old Tocal. In the golden light at the end of the day, the colourful characters of Tocal's past reappear in the old buildings. You will have the chance to eavesdrop on their conversations. Then as twilight fades, you'll stroll down to the old hayshed - (Tocal Visitor Centre)- to enjoy a delicious dinner accompanied by colonial music. Funds raised from this event will go towards the maintenance and preservation of Tocal Homestead heritage site. Some walking is

involved. BYO alcoholic drinks, soft drinks on sale. 6pm, tickets \$70.00 (includes performance and dinner). To book or for more information call 4939 8901 or email homestead@tocal.com

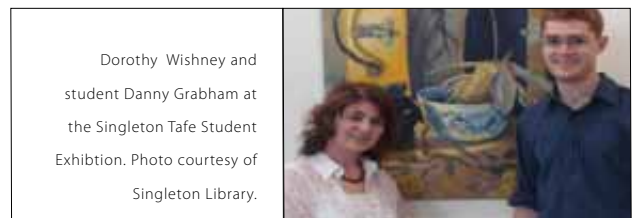
February

4 Opening of "art works"

This is an exhibition by the Fine Art Staff of the Newcastle Art School. It is being opened by Ron Ramsey, the director of Newcastle Regional Art Gallery. The exhibition runs until the 20th. Opening 5:30 to 7:30pm. Front Room Gallery, 582-608 Hunter St, Newcastle West. Tuesday to Friday 11am-5pm, for details please call 4929 0348.

21 Opening of 40th Muswellbrook Open Art Prize

This exhibition will run until 23rd March. Opening 6pm. 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



Dorothy Wishney and student Danny Grabham at the Singleton Tafe Student Exhibition. Photo courtesy of Singleton Library.

January

16 Upper Hunter Shire's Photographic Competition Merriwa District- entries close

The overall theme is "The Spirit of Australia". There are two categories: people, and places, and three age groups in each. Cash prizes. Exhibition and presentation will be held 26th January at Merriwa Sports Club. For more details call Kate on 6548 2109 or visit <http://upperhunter.local-e.nsw.gov.au/#Menu> select Community, then Australia Day.

16 Adelaide Perry Prize for Drawing- entries close

This is an acquisitive prize open to Australians for a drawing completed within a period of 12 months prior to the 16th January 2009. The prize is \$15,000. and the People's Choice is \$2,000 non-acquisitive. For details visit <http://www.plc.nsw.edu.au/public2/exhibitions.asp>

15 The Phillips Book Prize - entries close

The Phillips Collection for the Study of Modern Art

artist opportunities



offers an annual prize for an unpublished manuscript presenting new research in modern or contemporary art from 1880 to the present. Prize is \$5,000 and publication by the University of California Press. For details visit www.phillipscollection.org/research/center/book.aspx

21 "She who discovers" - entries close

This is an annual competition for female artists to exhibit contemporary art works in celebration of International Women's Day. Work can be two or three dimensional and can be created in any medium. Winners will receive exhibitions at sponsored galleries. Application fee \$10, if accepted exhibition fee \$45. For details visit <http://www.greaterdandenong.com> select Leisure, Walker Hill Gallery, or call 03 9706 8441.

30 40th Muswellbrook Open Art Prize - entries close

Total prize money \$23,000. Three sections: A - Two dimensional painting of any subject in any medium, B - For a work on paper of any subject, in any medium (excluding photography), C - For a ceramic work of any subject. Entry fee Section A \$35, for B & C \$17 each. Only one entry per section. For all the details and an entry form, please visit www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au, select Regional Art Centre, then Latest News or call 6549 3880.

30 Eat Your Words - entries close

This competition is designed to help foster the development of critical arts writing in Australia. Eight emerging writers (under 30 yrs) will win the opportunity to attend an intensive writing workshop in Brisbane, and selected writings will be published in the July issue of Artworkers magazine - "Artworker" For details call 07 3215 0850 or visit www.artworkers.org.

31 Black Dog Institute 5th Annual Writing Competition - entries close

The Black Dog Institute seeks essays from people in the workplace who have clinical depression or bipolar disorder, and also from their family, friends, workmates, supervisors and managers to share their experiences. The topic this year is: Mood Disorders in the Workplace. Prize pool of \$3,500. For application form and details visit <http://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/media/writingcompetition/index.cfm> or call 02 9382 4530.

February

4 Auditions for "Caught in the Net"

Muswellbrook Amateur Theatrical Society (MATS) is running this hilarious sequel to their 2008 show "Run for your Wife". Wanted 3 males, 2 females, and 2

teenagers. The show will run for 3 weeks in May. 7pm, Muswellbrook Workers Club, Sydney St. Contact Judy McMahon for perusal script details on 65 451488 or 0407227655.

9 Calleen Art Award 2009 - entries close

This is an acquisitive art award of \$10,000 for a contemporary artwork in any painting medium ie oils, acrylic, mixed media (only if paint remains the dominant medium). The Central West Regional Artists Award (non acquisitive) \$2,000, is open to artists living in central west NSW regions and the People's Choice Award (non acquisitive) of \$500. For details or to download an entry form, please go to the Cowra Art Gallery website at www.cowraartgallery.com.au/

17 "Off the wall", Art Melbourne - entries close

For emerging artists. Up to 20 artists will be selected to have their work professional installed and featured in a full colour catalogue sponsored by Art Almanac. For details visit <http://www.artoffthewall.com.au/>

sheri's bon mot
"curiosity should be promiscuous"

James Marley

February

2 Ian Potter Foundation - applications close

The Ian Potter Foundation provides grants to organisations that are both DGR and TCC status. Grants are available in the program areas of: the arts, community wellbeing, education, the environment etc For details visit www.ianpotter.org.au

13 Country Arts Support Program (CASP) - applications close

Small grants of up to \$3,000 for art and cultural projects such as, but not restricted to: workshops, performances, artist-residence programs, exhibitions etc. For an application form and guidelines please visit www.regionalartsnsw.com.au and select grants or call Arts Upper Hunter and we can post you a copy.

grants + residencies



16 Festival Australia - applications close

Festivals Australia is an Australian Government program which funds Australian regional and community festivals to present quality cultural projects. Funding is available to add a new or special sort of cultural activity. For details visit http://www.arts.gov.au/arts/festivals_australia



Billy attended the Singleton Library Storytime Christmas party. Photo courtesy of Singleton Library.

your local branch or www.uhrl.nsw.gov.au.

13 Bathurst Regional Art Gallery seeks a Curator, and an Education and Public Programs Officer. Applications close.

The Bathurst Regional Council has these two positions vacant. Please contact Richard Perram, Director BRAG on 02 6333 6555 for more information, or visit the Bathurst Council's website or 6333 6206 for a position description.

February

5 Enrolments for Certificate 2 Visual Arts and Contemporary Crafts

TAFE Hunter Institute, Singleton campus is offering this course which covers: drawing, painting, print making (including lino), art history and OH&S. Certificate III is also available, conditions apply. Certificate II, is being held Tuesdays, 5 hours per week, for 18 months. For more details please call Dorothy Wishney on 6578 7133 or 6578 7100.

Arts & Media Short Courses

TAFE Hunter Institute, Newcastle West campus is offering the following short courses: Drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, digital camera, digital video, animation, web page design, photoshop, interior design, indesign, sewing fundamentals, pottery, creative lingerie etc. For more information or to enrol please call 4929 0345 or visit <http://www.hunter.tafensw.edu.au/artshowcourses>, search for course and follow prompts.

Contributions to the February 2009 edition of Artsbark closes 21st January 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.

January

Singleton Library January School Holiday Program

Some great activities for the children include:
 7th - Beach Party, free, all ages welcome, 2 sessions.
 13th- "Croc Stars" Reptile show, \$7 ticket.
 14th - Storytime, free, 2 sessions, different ages groups
 21st - Drawing Workshop with David Emerson. \$5.
 Singleton Library, 8-10 Queen St, Singleton. Bookings essential. For more details call 6578 7500 or visit www.singleton.nsw.gov.au

Upper Hunter Regional Library "Get in the game, READ!" holiday program.

This library has branches at Muswellbrook, Aberdeen, Cassilis, Denman, Merriwa, Murrurundi and Scone. There is has a huge program for the children this January, including workshops, various activities, a reading competition and a party at Simpson Park on the 22nd. For all the details and to book, please visit

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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