



JULY 2010 ISSUE 61

artsbark

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editor's desk

It is the season for arts funding! Arts NSW project funding round has just closed. We have submitted an application to Arts NSW for funding to tour the play *Shift*, currently being developed, to 7 towns in the Hunter, which includes some of the smaller places like Gundy and Denman and also the regional centres of Newcastle and Cessnock. There is still an opportunity for individuals and groups to put in for the Quick Response grants being also offered by Arts NSW closing date 2 August, and there is the Regional Arts Fund which closes on the 13 August. To make sure you don't miss anything please check our website www.artsupperhunter.com.au. Sandra updates this weekly and it is a good one stop shop.

I would like to introduce Ivan Skaines who is joining Arts Upper Hunter to be the acting Regional Arts Development Officer for the next four months whilst Bridget takes time off to further her 'feet' project. Ivan is from Gresford and over the past ten years has held senior roles in the areas of strategic planning at the Universities of Western Sydney and Newcastle and the NSW Environment Protection Authority. He has also worked as a Community Forums Co-ordinator with Newcastle Council which involved oversight of 11 community groups across the City. Ivan has had a long interest in community organisations and cultural development, and is excited to have this opportunity.

A reminder for local artists wishing to further their professional development, we have the second of our *Professional Development Series* workshops in Muswellbrook on Friday the 23 July. This workshop is the Artist Business Workshop, and will be held at the Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre. The session is specifically designed for visual artists and will give all sorts of valuable information about setting up as a business. You absolutely must book for these sessions, please see our website or call the office on 49921033. The first of the series of 5 forums took place in Gloucester on the 17 June called *Show me the Money* which gave those attending lots of ideas about how to find financial support to further their careers and enable them to make an income to support their work. It was also a good opportunity for people

to meet others and hear what they are up to. The outcome of this was serious discussion about setting up a communal workshop space so people could share equipment and exchange ideas and skills.



Bridget Nicholson and Ivan Skaines

The board of Arts Upper Hunter has been busy developing the organization. Following on from Strategic Planning the board decided it was a priority to develop a marketing strategy. This is an interesting process because although it is about marketing Arts Upper Hunter it is really about our marketing of others; the others, ranging from community organizations, and events, to individual artists. Not having the budget to employ a consultant we approached Regional Arts NSW who in turn approached AbaF (the Australian Business Arts Foundation) on our behalf to register with their adviceBank program. (Networks work). The adviceBank program has been set up to provide assistance to any not-for-profit arts organisation with a specific need for business advice. AbaF will connect you to a professional with the identified skills. These are people who volunteer to be part



of the project and offer their assistance pro bono. Arts Upper Hunter has been teamed up with Phil Offer, who is the Small Business Marketing Manager for Optus. We have had one in depth session with Phil, and will be working with him over the next few months to define and refine the most efficient and effective ways of communicating. Elizabeth Rogers CEO of Regional Arts NSW also attended this forum and her contribution was invaluable, especially in terms of connecting into the national picture. Any feedback or ideas on how we could communicate better with you the audience, or how we could disseminate information more effectively is most welcome.

Finally there is a vacancy on the Arts Upper Hunter board. Stephen Bottomley who has been the community representative for the Muswellbrook Shire has gone to Holland for 6 months with his family. Stephen will be missed, he has contributed to Arts Upper Hunter since its very early days. If you are interested in finding out more about what the role entails please call Ivan who can put you in touch with the Chair of the board, Stuart St Hill. You might also like to talk to Karen Portolan who is the Council representative for Muswellbrook.

Farewell from Bridget and if you are interested in participating in her project (ie. by donating your feet-temporarily) check out the website www.touchthisearthlightly.com and contact Bridget through there.

Dancing, Pipe Band displays, Chris Duncan and Cathering Strutt - Celtic Fiddle Music, Rowan Tree Ensemble (Celtic Choir), and range of novelty events, traditional Ceilidh, and a Kirkin of the Tartan. For details visit www.aberdeenhighlandgames.com

3 A Soufflé of Talent: Young Performers on the Rise

A variety show presented by the Maitland Arts Council and featuring percussionist David Lockeridge, the Reamus Youth Acting Group, the female harmony trio Dolcé, dancers Sherri Burrows and Hannah Thomas, and cellist Hallam Fulcher accompanied by his sister Ailsa on violin. 7pm, Maitland City Bowls, Sports and Recreation Club, Rutherford. Tickets \$20, ph 4939 1200.

3-11 Messiah

Handel's original version about life, death and redemption. Sung by *Acappella Nova Community Choir*. Includes afternoon tea. Held 3, 4, 10, 11th. 2pm, Scots Kirk Presbyterian Church, cnr Tudor and Murray Sts, Hamilton. Tickets \$15, \$10, \$20 family, available from <http://trybooking.com.au/>

4 Jazz at Catherine Vale

Enjoy Jazz with the Newcastle based Preservation Jazz Band, performing Old Style Dixie/Jazz/New Orleans Jazz. 12 to 3pm. Catherine Vale, 656 Milbrodale Road, Fordwich. www.catherinevale.com.au

4 Sunday Sessions in Murrurundi

The *Back to Murrurundi Festival* organisers are holding an afternoon of live music on the first Sunday of each month from May until October. 4-8pm, Murrurundi Golf Club, Paradise Rd. \$15 includes hot supper. Details call Heather 6546 6024.

6-18 Mr Clegg's Creative Industry

To celebrate and showcase the work of the third year graduating acting students, Hunter TAFE presents this festival of 11 plays over 12 days. 14 actors, 48 performances. Civic Theatre, Newcastle For full program details visit www.civictheatrenewcastle.com.au, see "what's on".

9 2010 Singleton on Hunter Rotary Art Prize

There are 11 sections and a total prize pool of \$10,000. Paintings are available for purchase. Opening 7pm, entry fee \$25 inc refreshments. Singleton Civic Centre, Queen St, Singleton. Saturday to Monday, 10am-6pm, Tuesday 10am to noon. For details call Graeme on 65745185 or David on 0429775556.

10 Mid Winter Feast and Sing-a-Long

A fun night of singing old favourites and enjoying a

events + festivals July

1 Collections June 2010

A collection of work by artists Linda Camac, Alex Lavroff, Roberta Wiseman and Margaret Marshall. Closes 29th August. Scone Arts & Crafts Hall, Kingdon St, Scone. Open most weekends. For details call Scott 0427 101 697.

-17 Pix From the Stix Photographic Competition

This competition focuses on Gloucester Shire and it's culture. Exhibition closes 17th July. Gloucester Gallery, Denison St., Gloucester. Open 10am-4pm, Friday to Sunday. For details please call Leanne 0428 508704 or 02 6558 3157.

1-25 Rhondda Walters's "a painter's journey", NAIDOC Week 2010 - Local Aboriginal Artists Exhibition and Ceramics & Glass - selected works from the Max Watters Collection

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

3&4 Aberdeen Highland Games

A celebration of Scottish heritage. Includes a Robbie Burns Supper, grand parade, Highland & Country

wonder meal. Fundraiser for hall. Booking by 6th. 6.30 for 7pm, St Marks Hall, Segenhoe St, Aberdeen. Donation \$25. Call Wendy on 6543 1418.

13 On the China Trail: What is Porcelain?

A lecture by Mr Lars Tharp MA (Cantab) Hon D Art FRSA. The evening is presented by the ADFAS Scone. 6 for 6:30 pm, Scone Arts & Crafts, Kingdon St, Scone. For more details call Barbie on 6545 0471 or Jill on 6545 1822.

18 Apollo Tri at the Mercy

This Sydney based ensemble, Daniel Herscovitch on piano, Maria Lindsay on violin, and Elizabeth Neville on cello will be playing trios by *Mendelssohn, Mozart and Beethoven*. Presented Singleton Arts & Music Society. 2:30pm, Reception Room, Mercy Convent, Queen St, Singleton. Call Geoff Dunlop on 65722907.

20 Screening of Casablanca

This movie stars Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman and Paul Henreid. It is being presented by the Museum of Rural Life Inc Aberdeen as part of their *Golden Oldies for Golden Oldies*. Open to seniors living in Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter shires. Donation \$10 includes 3 course lunch. 11:30am Aberdeen Bowling Club. Bookings essential by 18th, call Jan on 6543 7150 or 6543 6267.

23 Touch This Earth Lightly

An installation by Bridget Nicholson and Leanne Barrett responding to threats to their local environment. Closes the 15th August. Gloucester Gallery, Denison St., Gloucester. Open 10am -4pm Friday to Sunday. For details please call Leanne 0428 508704 or 02 6558 3157.

23 Annie

The Muswellbrook Amateur Theatre Society Inc, (M.A.T.S) in conjunction with the Muswellbrook Shire Concert Band present this musical based upon the popular comic strip, "Little Orphan Annie". Performances 7:30pm on 23, 24, 30, 31 July, 5 & 6 August and matinees 25 July, 1 & 8 August. Muswellbrook District Workers Club, Sydney St. Tickets from the club after 1st of July. Phone 6543 2011.

23 & 24 Offenbach Down Under

Presented by Blue Bottle Productions. This is an evening of excerpts from some of Offenbach's better known operas and operette sung in their original language, plus the Australian premiere, performed in English, of his short chamber opera *Pepito*. 23rd, 7:30pm, Sacred Spaces, Sister of Mercy Convent. Tickets from Singleton Organics, 71 John St, 6572 3444. 24th, 7:30pm, Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre,

tickets MRAC Cnr Bridge & William St, 6549 3880. Other performances at Armidale, Newcastle & Cessnock, for details Scott Blick, 0402 152 835.

24 Our Place – Four Corners of the Hunter Valley

Textiles by Pamela Fitzgibbon, prints by Jacqui White and paintings by Pamela Ireland and Linda Greedy that record their responses to the Hunter from Bow Wow Creek to Pokolbin, Cessnock to Newcastle. Closes 29th August. 7th August, 2pm - Artists talk in gallery. Official Opening 6pm. Cessnock Regional Art Gallery, 16 Vincent Street Cessnock, Open Tuesday to Friday, 10am - 5pm. Ph 4991 6619 or visit www.crag.net.au

30 Robert McFarlane - Received Moments, photography 1961-2009, Miniatures XIV - Local Artists Think Small, Paint the Town Red - Local Artists Interpret Muswellbrook, Ceramics & Glass – from the Max Watters Collection.

Opening night 30th, 6pm. Closes 5th September. Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Cnr of Bridge and Market Sts, Tuesday to Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm, Sunday 2pm – 5pm. Ph 6549 3880.

31 Chill Out Day

Great Winter fun with entertainment, market stalls, food and wine. 9am-3pm, Church St, Gloucester. For more details call the Gloucester Information Centre on 6558 1408.

August

15 Concert by Sydney Male Choir

A choir of approx 50 singers performing accompanied and unaccompanied songs including choral ballads, musical theatre, love songs, Welsh hymns and more. 2:30pm, St Stanislaus Chapel, Mercy Convent, Queen St, Singleton. For details call Geoff Dunlop on 6572 2907.

10 Oak Trees and Oil Paint: the speaker's own landscape painting and digital photography

A lecture by Mr Steven Taylor NADFAS. The evening is presented by the ADFAS Scone. 6 for 6:30 pm, Scone Arts & Crafts, Kingdon St, Scone. For more details call Barbie on 6545 0471 or Jill on 6545 1822.

29 Fireside Concert Spirit of Scotland

Chris Duncan on violin and Catherine Strutt on piano. 2pm, Reception Room, Convent of Mercy Singleton. Tickets (includes A/tea): \$25 adults, \$20 con, \$5 school students. Limited tickets at door. Bookings 65722398 sacredspaces@singmercy.org.au by 26th.



July

9-25 GLEE Club Australia LA Tour Auditions

Students will perform at Disneyland, California Adventure Park, Universal Studios, Knots Berry Farm, Hollywood Blvd etc Info sessions, day before auditions. 9th - 6-8pm, teens (12-17yrs) , Sydney 23rd - 1-4pm adults (18-30yrs), 5-9pm teens. Sydney 25th - 4-6pm, Dubbo. To register email tours@aipa.com.au or call 9966 4030.

9 Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards - entries cl

Oldest and largest poetry competition for school students. www.dorothea.com.au

9 The Newcastle Poetry Prize – entries close

There are three sections; Open (\$11,000 total prize money), New Media (\$2,000) and Local (\$500). Competition is open to Australian residents. For details and to download an entry form, visit newcastlepoetryprize.com/

12 Sculpture In The Vineyards – entries close

Total prize pool \$10,500 and is held along the Wollombi Valley Wine Trail. For details call Cassandra Hard Lawrie on 0425 327 590.

16 Expressions of Interest for Artist to work with playgroup - close

An Aberdeen playgroup is seeking an artist to facilitate an art or craft workshop. For the details please contact Angela Frazer on 6542 3555 or admin@uhcs.org.au

30 The 2010 Norvill Art Prize – entries close

\$10,000 acquisitive prize for Australian Landscape. www.norvillprize.org

30 Canberra Short Film Festival – entries close

Films are to be no longer than 20 minutes. Cash prizes (up to \$2,000) will be awarded in four categories: National Open, National Youth, National Schools and Canberra & Region. <http://www.silversunpictures.com.au/csff/>

August

2 Poetry in Film Festival - entries close

An exciting new initiative which aims to introduce poets to film-makers and connect the two worlds of the literary and the digital. <http://www.poetryinfilmfestival.com.au/>

6 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize- entries close

Total prize pool \$13,000. Free standing sculptures of smaller dimensions (up to 80cm). For details <http://sculptureprize.woollahra.nsw.gov.au:80/>

6 2010 Jacaranda Acquisitive Drawing Award - cl

The major award of \$15,000 is acquisitive. Artists who reside in Australia to enter up to two drawings completed in 2009 or 2010. http://www.graftongallery.nsw.gov.au/cmst/gg001/view_doc.asp?id=748&cat=111

13 Scone Art Prize 2010- entries close

Total prize pool of \$7850 and includes the *Banool Conservation Prize* (\$3500). There are 10 sections including; Pam Jennings Memorial Open Prize, Watercolour, Paint or Drawing, Miniature, Pastel, Local, Sculpture, Ceramics and Photography. For full details and to have an entry form emailed to you, contact Scott Cooper on 0427 101 697 or innerscape@hunterlink.net.au

13 Sculpture In the Gaol – entries close

There is a prize of \$2500. Held at Trial Bay Gaol, South West Rocks. <http://www.sculptureinthegaol.com.au/index.html>

15 Calling for Collectors - closes

The Upper Hunter Museum of Rural Life Inc is holding the *Aberdeen Collectors Expo* on the 4th of September at the Aberdeen Bowling Club and is seeking displays. For details call Jan Sumner on 6543 7150 or Jan Wild on 6543 6267.

31 The Martin Lawrence Writing Competition - cl

Sections: Short story up to 3000 words with open theme, and Memior up to 1000 words. First prize \$100. 2nd \$50 in each. Full details email stroudwriters@yahoo.com.au



Some of the cast from SATS's production of *The Wedding Singer*. Photo courtesy of Jon Dougherty.

July

- 15 Festivals Australia – applications close**
This is an Australian Government program funding regional and community festivals. Funding is available to add a new or special sort of cultural activity. www.arts.gov.au/arts/festivals_australia
- 3 Community Building Partnership 2010 - close**
Community organisations and local councils are encouraged to apply for funding to build and improve community facilities in their local area. <http://www.communitybuildingpartnership.nsw.gov.au/>
- 30 Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program - applications close**
This funding will assist councils to build and modernise community facilities. For details visit <http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/local/cip/cip100.aspx>

August

- 2 Arts NSW 2011 Funding Program, 2011 Project Funding (Quick Response) - applications close**
Supports unexpected artistic and professional development opportunities for individuals and small to medium organisations. www.arts.nsw.gov.au
- 13 Regional Arts Fund – applications close**
This grant support 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. www.regionalartsnsw.com.au under grants.
- 15 Janet Holmes a Court Artist's Grant - app close**
Provides assistance towards the costs of public presentation of visual arts, craft and design. <http://www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes>

Ongoing The Anna Wearne Memorial Trust

Amounts \$50 to \$1000. Supports young people reach their potential, where such potential is hampered due to disadvantage or inequality. For details <http://www.annawearnetrust.org.au/group/noticeboard/>

sheri's bon mot

"Every time I paint a portrait I lose a friend"

John Singer Sargent

July

Open Adult Art Classes at MRAG

Day and evening classes are being offered with artists Gwendolin Lewis (Beginner Oils, plus Intermediate Oils), Ileana Clarke (Life Drawing Class), Steven James (Art-Making and Creativity Classes) and weekend workshops with Giselle Penn (Feltmaking). For details call the Maitland Regional Art Gallery on 4934 9859.

12-16 Printmaking Workshop

This five day intensive printmaking workshop is suitable for beginners and experienced printmakers alike. It includes etching/relief, collagraphs and silkscreen work. Offered by Hunter TAFE. 9am to 4:30pm, 590-608 Hunter St, Newcastle West. For details visit www.hunter.tafensw.edu.au select short course from left, or call Carol Woodland on 4929 0345.

13-18 Professional Actors Workshop Series

A series of workshops with top LA Casting Directors; Seth Yanklewitz, Francene Selkirk and "Steve". 40 Merrenburn Ave, Naremburn NSW. 6hr workshop \$310 (+GST) for one session or \$800 (+GST) for three. Details www.aipapaws.com.au or call 02 9966 5425

15 Proving your claim- Indigenous Research Workshop

The focus will be on the kinds of historical research that is needed to support claims and how in turn this can be accessed and used at the community level. 10am - 4pm, Tranby Aboriginal College, 13 Mansfield Street, Glebe. Free. www.historycouncilnsw.org.au

16-18 A Short Film Workshop with Wojt Kowaluk

Presented by Valley Artists. Participants need to be 16yrs or over and have their own camera. \$50. For details call Janine Oliver 4998 8282 or filmfestival@valleyartists.org. Bookings close 10th July.

21 Working with Fabric and Fibre (Sewing)

TAFE Outreach is offering this course at McCully's Gap Hall. It will run every Wednesday from 9.30am to 2.30pm until 17 November. For details call Annabelle McLoughlin on 6542 1115.

21-23 International Intensive Acting Programme

Australian Institute for Performing Arts is offering a 3 day intensive IMPROV workshop for Australian High School Drama Teachers. First 25 respondents free. For details call Jen Haynes on 9966 5013, kpg@aipa.com.au. Details www.kickperformancegroup.com.au



23 Artist Business Workshop - Free

The day includes presentations by industry experts, leading visual artists, gallery professionals and arts managers. Topics include business basics, copyright, an artworld overview, documenting artwork, building a client base and marketing and media relations. This is being presented by AbaF and Arts Upper Hunter, with support from Industry and Investment NSW. 9:30am-4:30pm, Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Cnr Bridge & William St. Registration form available from www.artsupperhunter.com.au, select Professional Development under Projects.

23 Upgrade to Office 2007 - Free

Singleton Youth Venue and Upper Hunter TAFE Outreach presents this course for 17-24 yrs olds. It will run each Friday until 24th September. 10am to 1pm, Singleton Youth Centre. To book call Annabelle McLoughlin on 6542 1115.

27-28 HotHouse

This is a two-day think-tank bringing together leading designers, artists, curators, creative thinkers, academics, philosophers, urban planners and architects from around the world in a quest to develop inspiring models for sustainable urban transformation. Utzon Room, Sydney Opera House. For details and tickets visit www.sydneysoperahouse.com/whatson/hothouse.aspx

August

7 This Business Called ART 2010 Forum 2

The focus is on working with new media and digital technologies. Presented by Orana Arts. \$35. 10am -3pm, Western Plains Cultural Centre, Wingerwarra St. Dubbo. For details call 6801 4444.

21&22 Watercolours with Gerhard Ullman

Workshop is being held by the Scone Arts & Crafts. For details call Terry Cox on 6541 4641.

26-29 Junction 2010

Regional Arts Australia and Tasmanian Regional Arts invite you to Launceston to celebrate community, culture and the arts. Details www.junction2010.com.

July

5-26 Holiday Fun @ Upper Hunter Regional Libraries

Range of creative activities for school age children across the libraries at Muswellbrook, Aberdeen, Denman, Murrurundi, Merriwa, Scone, and Cassilis. For details visit a library and book early.

5-16 School Holiday Program at Cessnock Regional Art Gallery

There is a range of activities for 6 – 12 yrs include painting, mask-making, kite-making all \$15 per class. 8th & 16th - HSC Workshop with Adrienne Crouch. Cessnock Regional Art Gallery, 16 Vincent Street Cessnock, Open Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 5pm. Ph 4991 6619 or visit www.crag.net.au

not to miss



Samantha Cobcroft (Soprano) and Dermot Kavanagh (Baritone) from the Shrewd Maid, Blue Bottle Production. 2009. Photo care of Scott Blink.

Contributions to the August 2010 edition of Artsbark closes 21st of July.

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.

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Artsbark draws on information from local, state and national arts organisations. We thank you and welcome your contribution.

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