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JULY 2009 ISSUE 49

artsbark

editor's desk

The Upper Hunter Show Band is spreading its wings. Their most recent performance has been in the parade for the Scone Horse Festival now they are off to play at the Calgary Stampede. This is an annual event and the band went last year as well, I am sure the significant prize money adds to the spice but it must also be more than a bit of a thrill to play with so many other bands to an expected audience of over 300,000 people. This is the starting point for a tour that includes playing in Disney World and lunching with an astronaut at the NASA lift off centre. The band has 17 members aged from 14-68 years and will be taking 5 supporters with them.

The arts is one of the few areas where people of all ages can come together to do things. No under 15's here. The film project in Gloucester and Dungog was another example of this, where a total of 30 people ranging in age from 12-65 came together to make films. The two short films made; *On the move* and *What's yours is mine...d* are being launched at the Dungog Cinema on Sunday 5th July. Showing at the same time will be *Dead dog dreamin'*, also a short made by Dungog High School students. The feature film to accompany these was made in 1939, filmed in the Barrington Tops near Gloucester and called *Rangle River*. This is quite a historic film in the Australian film industry as it was one of the first films made in Australia with American money and came out of a push from government to encourage Australian stories. The print is courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive [of Australia].

It is grant season, it always seems to sneak up and suddenly projects go from being a vague idea into something solid and tangible. At Arts Upper Hunter we are preparing our application for triennial funding to Arts NSW, this is funding that keeps us going and without which we would not exist. We are also looking at developing a theatre project across Singleton and Muswellbrook that would involve a playwright working in the community and developing a play that looks at 'shiftwork', and all the things that this means to people. A group in Dungog is keen to work on a big TV

production type project for young people, that would be an adjunct to the Film Festival and the *Turning the Pages* project in Murrurundi is planning its next stage. Anyone seeking assistance with the grant process please do not hesitate to contact our office



The Upper Hunter Show Band - photo courtesy of the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music.

There is good news re funding. Cultural industries in regional NSW will receive a \$2.6 million boost in this year's State Budget which has been welcomed by the Convenor of Country Labor, Christine Robertson MLC. \$2.6 million dollars in total has been allocated to arts and creative initiatives in regional and remote NSW. Of this \$2.1 million is for Conservatoriums across the state for musical education, performances and touring. \$300,000 is for regional galleries, and \$200,000 for the Regional Arts Network. It is a very welcome announcement and will assist all of these organizations to do what is necessary to ensure that living outside the metropolitan areas does not deny access to high quality and professional arts and creative practices. Coming up in the school holidays is the first of the *Creative*



Development Retreats that are part of the Artstart program and 15 young people from across the Hunter will be spending a week at Illa Langi near Vacy doing circus and break dancing. There are two more camps scheduled for the October holidays, to check dates and mediums please see www.artsupperhunter.com.au.

For young and old alike don't miss out on the *A Dog's Life: Dion Beasley* exhibition at the new Cessnock Regional Art Gallery. The gallery opened on Saturday 6th June with an exhibition of *6 Artists*, a beautiful exhibition of 6 established Hunter Valley artists working across a range of mediums. The gallery is committed to developing education and public programs to accompany all their exhibitions, and are planning on running regular workshops for enthusiasts 5 years old and up. Visit www.crag.net.au to find out more.

Bridget Nicholson



The rocks being delivered for the Sculpture Garden at Sandy Hollow.

July

1 **"NSW 2008 Indigenous Art Prize Winners", "Naidoc Week Group Show" and "Maryanne McKinnon Kidd" Exhibitions.**
These exhibitions run until the 9th of August. 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.

1-12 **Hidden - Rookwood Cemetery**
Hidden is the Rookwood Sculpture Walk, an on-site contemporary sculpture project, which reveals 16 artists' responses to the site of Rookwood, one of the largest cemeteries in the southern hemisphere. Hidden aims to promote the work of artists and engage visitors at Rookwood cemetery, Sydney. Free

entry. <http://www.rookwoodcemetery.com.au/>

2-5 **Aberdeen Highland Games**

With events including the Robbie Burns Supper, a charity golf day, Grand Parade, traditional Ceilidh and Kirkin of the Tartan. For all the details visit www.aberdeenhIGHLANDGAMES.COM

3 **Pix from the Stix Exhibition**

This is a photographic competition with the focus on the Gloucester Shire region. The opening includes the announcement of prizes and refreshments will be provided. The exhibition runs until the 26th July. Opening Night is the 3rd of July at 7pm. Gloucester Gallery, Dennison Street, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm, for details call 6558 3157.

4 **Scottish Breakfast and Markets**

The markets will include a wide range of stalls, food and a display of children's art. 8am, Aberdeen Community Hall and Rose Garden, New England Hwy. For more details call 6543 8457.

4 **Barrington Charity Market Day**

All stallholders are local not-for-profit organisations or charities. A wide range of stalls including: plants, cakes & slices, bric-a-brac, BBQ etc. Barrington Hall, Argyle St, Barrington. For more details call Deb on 6558 4324.

5 **Launch of Portraits of Place Short Films**

Premiere screening of Gloucester film *What's Yours is Mine...d* and Dungog film *On the Move*. To be screened with a 1939 black and white movie filmed around the Barrington area. Dungog Cinema, 2.30pm Sunday. 6 Brown St., Dungog.

5 **NAIDOC Celebrations at Gloucester**

The theme for this year is "Honoring our Elders, Nurturing our Youth". A fun day to include a smoking ceremony, face painting, jumping castle, information stalls, craft stalls, entertainment, sausage sizzle, etc. 11am, Billabong Park, Gloucester. Alcohol free zone. gold coin donation appreciated. For more details please contact Kim Lawrence at the Bucketts Way Neighbourhood Group inc. on 65582454.

12 **The Shiralee**

This is the original uncut or modified film that has its premier at the Civic Theatre Scone in 1953 and stars Peter Finch and Dana Wilson. Plus 3 course dinner. Proceeds going to the Upper Hunter Museum of Rural Life & Cultural Centre in Aberdeen. 5:30pm. Aberdeen Bowling Club, Aberdeen. Cost is a donation \$15, bookings essential. Call Jan Sumner 6543 7150, or Jan Wild 6543 6267 by the 10th of July.

12 Muswellbrook Markets

A wide range of stalls including craft, produce etc 9am to 1pm. Muswellbrook Show Grounds, Maitland Rd. Held the 2nd Sunday of the month. For more details call Brian Collard on 0428 217 176 or 6543 1141.

13 "Golden Oldies for the Golden Oldies"

Presenting the film, *The African Queen* starring Humphrey Bogart and Katherine Hepburn. and includes a 3 Course lunch. This is for seniors living in the Upper Hunter and Muswellbrook Shires. 11:30am, Aberdeen Bowling Club, \$8 donation, to book call Jan Sumner 6543 7150 or Jan Wild 6543 6267 by 10th July.

14 "William James Neatby: The Master of Harrods Meat Hall"

A lecture by Dr Scott Anderson, ASFAV, NADFAS presented by the ADFAS Scone. 6 for 6:30 pm, Scone Arts & Craft Hall, Kingdon St, Scone. For more details call Gail on 6543 4620 or Jill on 6545 1822.

16 Meet Author, Uncle Norm Newlin, at the Singleton Library

Uncle Norm is a Worimi indigenous elder whose published works include *My Worimi lovesong dreaming* and *Where there's life there's spirit*. Includes light lunch. 11am to 12noon, Singleton Library, Queen St. Bookings essential. Phone 6578 7500.

17 Singleton Art Prize Exhibition

This is presented by the Rotary Club of Singleton. The exhibition will run until the 22nd. 17th Opening Night & Presentation of Prizes, cost \$20 and includes finger food and wine. 18th to 21st open from 10am to 6pm, and 22nd from 10am to 12pm. Free admission. Singleton Civic Centre, Queen St, Singleton. For more details call Graeme on 6574 5185 or Brian on 0408 600 096.

17 Opening of a *A Dog's Life*: Dion Beasley, & *Sketches from the Studio*, by Reg Mombassa

Dion is a 17 yr old Indigenous artist who lives in Tennant Creek. Dion has created a delightful series of screen prints on paper depicting the life of dogs and other animals. Reg's exhibition includes sketches, framed works and t-shirts. Runs till 23rd August. 17th Opening Night - 6-8pm. Cessnock Regional Art Gallery, 16 Vincent Street, Cessnock. Tuesday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm. 4991 6619

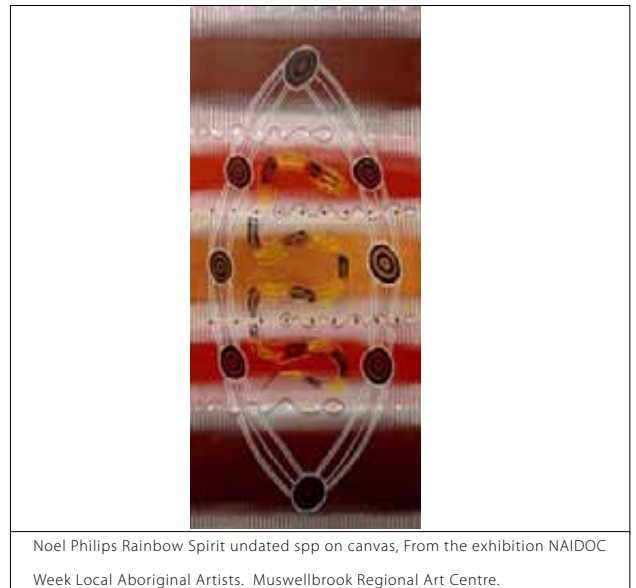
24 & 25 Wallabadah Art & All That Jazz Festival

Art Exhibition, jazz concert, market stalls and workshops such as: Oil, Watercolour, Pastels, Singing

Cartooning, Animation, Drumming, Spinning etc. 24th, 6:30pm, Opening of Art Exhibition & Concert featuring Roshani Priddis performing with the Johnny Muller Jazz Band. Adult \$15, children under 16yrs \$5. 25th, 10am, Stalls, art exhibition, workshops etc, free entry, Art Exhibition \$5. Martyn St, Wallabadah. For details and bookings call 67465606 or 0427 462155.

27 Local Primary Schools Exhibition

The exhibition runs until the 9th of August. Gloucester Gallery, Dennison Street, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm, for details call 6558 3157.



Noel Philips *Rainbow Spirit* undated spp on canvas, From the exhibition NAIDOC Week Local Aboriginal Artists. Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre.

August

1 Muswellbrook Carnivale in Spring

A host of happy and exciting events, things to do games to play, places to go and people to meet all throughout Spring, in the Muswellbrook Shire. For all the details please visit Muswellbrook Visitor Information Centre in Hill St, Muswellbrook or www.muswellbrook.org.au

8 Centenary Celebrations at the Convent of Mercy Singleton.

The Centenary of the opening of the Convent of Mercy will be celebrated exactly 100 years after the completed convent was officially blessed and opened in 1909. Gates open at 1pm with an outdoor ceremony at 2pm followed by afternoon tea, music and a heritage exhibition in the Convent. Open invitation. For details please call 6572 2398.

8 Opening of *Studio La Primitive*

This is an exhibition of recent collaborative works *Caprice* by Gresford artists, Eric and Robyn Werkhoven. Celebrating 30 years artistic relationship. It runs from



the 5th to 30th August.
8th Opening Night, 6-8pm.
School of Arts Gallery (SOAG), 15 Elizabeth St. Tighes Hill. Open Wed to Sunday, 11am to 5pm. For more details call 4969 1811.

10 Shannon Hartigan Photography Exhibition

The exhibition runs until the 6th of September.
Gloucester Gallery, Dennison Street, Gloucester. Open Friday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm, for details call 6558 3157.

11 "Great Tarts In Art: High Culture and the Oldest Profession"

A lecture by Miss Terry Pearson BA (Hons), MA Dip Ed NADFAS presented by the ADFAS Scone. 6 for 6:30 pm, Scone Arts & Craft Hall, Kingdon St, Scone. For more details call Gail on 6543 4620 or Jill on 6545 1822.

11 Opening of Natural Abstractions exhibition by Chris Russell

This exhibition by local Berrico (near Gloucester) artist, Chris Russell runs until the 23rd August. Opening 11th, \$5 entry, and 2 course dinner available.
Shorethyme Restaurant, 9 Mitchell Street, Nora Head. Central Coast. Open Tues to Sat from 6pm, Sun 9am. 4396 4507.

14 "Dorothee Heibel" and "Jan Vincent" Exhibitions

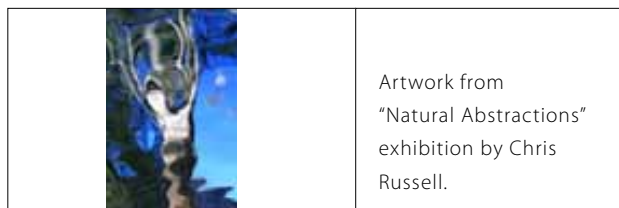
These exhibitions run until the 13th September.
Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Cnr of Bridge and Market Sts, Tuesday to Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm, Sunday 2pm – 5pm, for details please call 6549 3880.

14 Opening of the Maitland Regional Society of Artists Members Only Exhibition.

14th, Opening night, 6-8pm.
15th & 16th 9am to 5pm. Gold coin donation.
Masonic Hall, Grant Street, Maitland. For more details call Christine on 4934 2573.

22 & 23 The Shrewd Maid

Scott Blink and his *Blue Bottle Productions* present this comic opera, which centres around a muddle headed businessman, Balanzone, who is tricked by a maid, Dorilla, into marrying her instead of her wealthy mistress. The piece has been set in 1930's Australia.
22nd, 8pm, Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre, c/nr Bridge & William St, \$25 adult, \$22 Concession. For booking call 6549 3880.
23rd, 2pm, Sacred Spaces, Queen St, Singleton. \$22 adult, \$17 Concession. Includes cup of tea/coffee. For bookings contact Video Ezy, John St, Singleton.



July

1 Upper Hunter Eisteddfod Dance - entries close

There are a number of categories including: Jazz, Contemporary, Classical and Tap, and the Local Dance Championship. Held 13 to 17th July. For details email Vicki, peter.riddy@hunterlink.net.au

10 3rd Wallabadah Art & All That Jazz, Art Exhibition - entries close

There is a prize pool of \$2000. Sections include: Oil or Acrylic, Watercolour, Pastel, Any Other Medium, Photography (subsections A – Adults, B – Youth 12 to 16, C – Children under 12). Mayor's Choice Award and Any Medium (excluding Photography) Youth under 16 yrs. The exhibition is 24th and 25th of July. Entry fee \$ per painting. For details call Narelle Nelson on 6766 7472, or Tania Hartigan on 67465606 or email taniarod@bigpond.com

10 The Newcastle Poetry Prize - entries close

This competition is open to Australian poets. There are three sections: Open, New Media and Local and a total prize pool of \$13,500. Poems are to be no more than 200 lines.
\$20 entry fee, for details visit newcastlepoetryprize.com/

13 Outback Art Prize - entries close

Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery invites artists who are Australian residents to submit entries for the 2009 Outback Art Prize. Total prize pool is \$16,300. For details call Bruce Tindale, on 08 8080 3440, or visit www.brokenhill.net.au/bhart/exhibition_public_events.html

17 The Flame Awards - entries close

The Flame Awards is a nationwide competition to showcase the most outstanding music programs in Australian Schools.
For details visit <http://www.abc.net.au/classic/flame/>

August

14 2009 Manning Art Prize - entries close

Total prize money is \$15 000 across two categories, Works in 2D and in Works in 3D. The overall winner

artist opportunities

(acquisitive) attracts the major prize of \$10 000. For details, call Manning Regional Art Gallery on 6592 5455 or www.fogsmanningvalley.com.au/index.php

30 **2010 Arts-Activated Conference - call for papers close**

Submissions for proposals to present at the 2010 Arts Activated Conference, being held by Accessible Arts in March 2010 are being called. The theme is Arts - Access - Excellence. People with a disability are encouraged to apply. For all the details please visit <http://www.aarts.net.au/arts-activated-conference-2010/> or call Jane Pollard on 9251 6499.

sheri's bon mot

*"An artist's career
always begins tomorrow"*

James McNeill Whistler

July

6 **Arts NSW's 2010 Arts Funding Program - applications close**

This funding is for programs and projects to be undertaken in 2010. The guidelines and applications forms are available from www.arts.nsw.gov.au

15 **Festivals Australia - applications close**

This is an Australian Government program which funds Australian regional and community festivals to present quality cultural projects. For more information please visit www.arts.gov.au/arts/festivals_australia

16 **Sidney Myer Fund's, Arts and Humanities Small**

These grants are capped at \$30,000 and are generally made for a one year period only. Priority areas include: To build capacity, develop new works and the Humanities. For full details visit www.myerfoundation.org.au/_109.asp

August

14 **Regional Arts Fund - 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. Applications close 14th August. For details, call Annette Eassie on 9720 2502 or visit www.regionalartsnsw.com.au select grants.

15 **A Month in the Country: National Performing Arts Residency - applications close**

A Month In The Country is a national arts resource to facilitate the creation of new Australian performing arts work.

For details <http://www.hothousetheatre.com.au/amitc/index.htm>



A still from the *Portrait's of Place* film, *What's Yours is Mine...d*

July

14- 22 **Holiday Fun workshops @ Singleton Library**

Celebrating NAIDOC Week, the library is holding the following workshops for children.

14th - Paint - create your own dot paintings

15th - Sculpt - use clay

17th - Create - Decorate a boomerang, weave a basket

22nd - Learn to Knit - 3 sessions

Singleton Public Library, Queen St. Booking essential.

For more details or to book call 6578 7500.

15-21 **Holiday Fun @ Upper Hunter Regional Library**

A range of terrific craft, activities and storytelling for children will be held. To find out what is happening in your area, please visit www.uhrl.nsw.gov.au or call into your local branch.

24 & 25 **Cartoon Workshop with Roger Fletcher**

This is part of the Wallabadah Art & All That Jazz Festival. For details call Tania on 67465606.

August

1 **Pastel workshop with Jean Buettel**

Dungog Art Society is presenting this workshop. Jean will demonstrate how to get a glow under the pastel with loose underpainting in ink or watercolour - drying the paper and working on top with pastel, and mixing the blend of colours into the paper.



10 am to 3 pm, Dungog Day Care Centre, Hospital Rd. Dungog. Fee \$50.00 (\$25.00 for members, students and pensioners), for more details or to book call Wendy Graham 4992 1637, Jan Samson 4992 3233 or Pat Staker 4992 3304.

1 & 2 Watercolour workshop with Patricia Johnston

Presented by the Scone Arts & Crafts Inc. 9am to 4pm, Scone Arts & Crafts, Kingdom St, Scone. Bookings essential. For details or to book, please call Helen Booth on 6545 2156 (after 5pm).

3 Smart Arts workshop with Victoria Keighery.

Presented by the Newcastle City Council. Victoria Keighery, CEO of Community Cultural Development NSW, will discuss and engage with participants the principles of good CCD, current trends, policy directions and how CCDNSW can help you. This workshop is free.

4pm -7.30pm, Lovett Gallery Newcastle Regional Library War Memorial Cultural Centre, Laman St, Newcastle. Booking are essential and by calling 49745327 or visiting www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au

15 & 16 Oil Painting workshop with Wanda Driscoll

Presented by the Scone Arts & Crafts Inc. 9am to 4pm, Scone Arts & Crafts, Kingdom St, Scone. Bookings essential. For details or to book, please call Helen Booth on 6545 2156 (after 5pm).

21 or 22 Moving Things Around workshop with Scott Blink

A workshop especially for vocalists wishing to develop and integrate their acting and movement skills with their singing. Suitable for professional and amateur singers, actors and dancers alike, workshops focus on "Cross-referencing" the Performing Arts. The workshops run for 3 1/2 hours and is divided into two parts, with two small breaks of 15 mins. The workshops are being organised by the Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Eisteddfod Committee. Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre. Bookings essential. For details call Suzie Troon on 6541 2094.



Artworks created at the recent *Sticky Tape* workshop at Dungog.

Regional Arts NSW E-Bulletin

This is a newsletter full of the latest arts news, what is happening across regional NSW, artists opportunities, grants etc. To view the latest issue, access past issues, to subscribe, or find out how to have your event included, please visit www.regionalartsnsw.com.au

ABC Rural Online Events Diary

ABC Rural Online hosts a web-based Rural Events Diary. This calendar is a public posting of events and happenings for regional and rural Australia. Make a new entry or search the diary for workshops, conferences or field days near you. For all the details visit <http://www2.abc.net.au/rural/diary/index.htm>

Contributions to the August Artsbark closes 21st 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.

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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