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JUNE 2010 ISSUE 59

artsbark

editor's desk

The NSW Government has finally rejected the proposal to expand the Bickham Coal Mine in the Upper Hunter due to the potential effect on the Pages River. This news is very welcome to the ears of many in the arts community not just in the Upper Hunter. It was timely that the *Turning the Pages* project had the first of their new series of workshops straight after the announcement. The *Turning of the Pages* project started in 2005 out of concern for the health of the Pages River and a desire for better awareness and understanding by all as to the part rivers play in our ecological well being. The workshop held in mid May looked at ways and means for designing a river walk from bridge to bridge. The workshop was with Jennifer Turpin environmental artist, and Barbara Schaffer NSW Government landscape architect. 30 people attended, demonstrating a high level of interest. There will be a second workshop on this component in September. Meanwhile for those more interested in writing there is a short story competition with the theme of *Water*, entries close June 30, see www.turningthepages.com.au for details and other events.

In other parts of the region environmental sustainability is being championed also through the arts by a project called *Be the Change*. The project sponsored by the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation and supported by the Department of Industry & Investment NSW aims to stimulate ideas in communities through the screening the award winning film *The Burning Season*. The film is in effect a documentary about a young 30 year old Australian environmental entrepreneur, Dorjee Sun who sets out to find a resolution to the damage caused to habitat, the environment, health etc... by the annual burning of the rainforests of Indonesia. Year 8 students will watch the film and then have the opportunity to talk to Felicity Blake, one of the film makers. Workshops with Felicity and youth facilitator Michael 'MO' O'Meara will lead to the group devising their own project for their own community. This will be developed through the school and the community with support from the Department of Industry & Investment. 10 schools across the state have been

chosen to pilot the program, two of which are in our region; Merriwa and Gloucester. The Merriwa project has started with the screening of the film in mid May. Gloucester will happen later in the year. It will be very interesting to see how these projects develop and documentation will also form part of the process, giving another layer of skill and opportunity to those involved.



Jennifer Turpin and participants of Turning of the Pages workshop, photo courtesy of Turning of the Pages.

Youth workers in the Lower Hunter have combined to set up a *Band Showcase*. This is an opportunity for young bands to perform to a panel of industry professionals and then participate in an informal feedback/professional development session. The band showcase will also be an opportunity for bands to be in the running to perform as support bands at the upcoming Indent Gig to be held in Cessnock in September. This gig will feature national touring bands such as Urthboy. The Showcase will be held at Maitland Headspace on July 20. To play at the showcase bands need to have majority of members aged under 25 and have at least one member residing in either Cessnock,



Maitland or Dungog Local Government Areas. For more information and to book in contact Rebecca Fowles 0407 891 650, rfowles@samaritans.org.au.

For the older generation interested in both listening and playing music the organizers of the Back to Murrurundi Festival are putting on *Sunday Sessions*. The first Sunday of the month from now until October, turn up at the Murrurundi Golf Club 4-8pm \$15 and there is a hot dinner! Contact Heather Ranclaud for more information 65466024.

Activities generally are slowing down as we bunker down for winter, apart from the drama world where it is the season for theatre. SCADS have just finished their season of the comedy *Running Riot*, to be followed by SATS with *The Wedding Singer* and MATS with *Annie*. Tickets sell out so be warned. Apart from that there are lots of opportunities for artists and grants to apply for. If you need assistance with formulating projects, finding resources and funding try to come to the **Show me the Money** workshop in Gloucester on the 17 June. Check the Arts Upper Hunter website for details www.artsupperhunter.com.au/project (professional development) or call us.

June

1 Gloucester Patchwork Group Exhibition

Closes 20 June
Gloucester Gallery, Denison St, Gloucester.
10am-4pm Fri, Sat, Sun. For details call Leanne 0428 508704 or 02 6558 3157.

1 Undertow, exhibition by Hanna Kay

This touring exhibition was commissioned by MRAG. Also showing is a *Les Darcy* exhibition. Both close 11 July.
Maitland Regional Art Centre, 230 High Street Maitland, Tue to Sun, 10am to 5pm. For details call 4934 9859 or www.mrag.au

1 School Choir Competition@ Hunter Valley Gardens

The 4th annual school choir competition showcasing students and teachers musical achievements. On each Tuesday and Wednesday throughout June. Hunter Valley Gardens, Broke Rd Pokolbin. For details visit www.hvg.com.au

2-14 57th Annual Sydney Film Festival

Festival will include 157 films from 47 countries. For details and to book tickets, please visit sff.org.au

4 Collections June 2010

A collection of work by artists Linda Camac, Alex Lavroff, Roberta Wiseman and Margaret Marshall.

Opening 6pm, inc refreshments.

Scone Arts & Crafts Hall, Kingdon St, Scone. Open most weekends. For details call Scott 0427 101 697.

5 Smokin' At The Pot House 3

Muswellbrook Ceramics Group is holding a winter Raku firing. Pots and glazes available for purchase or BYO. Morning & afternoon teas available.
9am-5pm, The Pot House, Lions Park, Scott St, Muswellbrook. Details Scott Cooper 0427 101 697.

5 Singleton Bush Poets Concert

A great night of Bush Humour with Glenny Palmer, the Singleton Bush Poets and special guests. \$20.00pp (workshop attendees free - see workshop section).
7pm, The Pavilion, Bathurst St, Singleton. BYO basket supper and drinks. Bookings and details 0408 007238 or email bailey.electrical@hunterlink.net.au

6 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.

8 Screening of All That Heaven Allows

This movie stars Jane Wyman and Rock Hudson. 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 5th, call Jan on 6543 7150 or 6543 6267.

8 Charles Darwin in Australia

A lecture by Paul Brunton, Senior Curator Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW. This evening is being presented by the ADFAS Scone.
6 for 6:30 pm, Scone Arts & Crafts, KingdonSt, Scone. For more details call Barbie on 6545 0471 or Jill on 6545 1822.

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

Opening night 11th, 6pm. Closes 25th July.
Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Cnr of Bridge and Market Sts, Tuesday to Friday 10am - 5pm, Saturday 10am - 1pm, Sunday 2pm - 5pm ph 6549 3880.

11-26 The Wedding Singer

Singleton Theatrical Society presents this production of Adam Sandler's film with original 80's style music.
8pm on the 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 22, 25, & 26, and 2pm on

20 & 26. Singleton Civic Centre, Queen St, Singleton.
Enquiries Mark Smith 6572 1530 (ah).

11-12 Merriwa Festival of the Fleece

Fun for all the family. Commences Friday night with "Murder in Merriwa", Saturday includes the Running of the Sheep and Street Parade, exhibitions, stalls etc. For program call Merriwa Visitors Information Centre on 6548 2607 or <http://upperhunter.local-e.nsw.gov.au/>

12 Merriwa's Hanging of the Quilts

Talents from local quilters will be displayed. Stalls, tea & coffee etc. 10am-4:30pm, Merriwa School of Arts, Bow St. Merriwa Visitors Information Centre on 6548 2607.

12-14 Gulgong Arts & Crafts Spectacular

This is held in conjunction with the Henry Lawson Heritage Festival. Memorial Hall, Herbert St. Gulgong. Janette Newman on 6374 1005 or visit artscouncilofgulgong.com

13&14 Shiloh Art Studio - Open Studio Exhibition

An exhibition of works on paper, painting, jewellery and fibre art by local artists; Bernie Meyers, Robyn Werkhoven, Dawn Thompson and others. 10am - 4pm, 303 Dungog Rd, Martins Creek. For details www.bernimeyers.com

19 Edward Neeman and Stephanie In Concert

Edward and Stephanie have performed as a duo across three continents. Both have won international piano competitions. Presented by Alport Foundation of Australia. 8pm, Newcastle Conservatorium Harold Lobb Concert Hall. \$35 adult, \$28 con, \$15 student. For bookings call 1300 306 776.

25 Pix From the Stix Photographic Competition

This competition focuses on Gloucester Shire and it's culture. Exhibition closes 17th July. Opening 7pm. Gloucester Gallery, Denison St., Gloucester. Open 10am -4pm Fri, Sat, Sun. For details please call Leanne 0428 508704 or 02 6558 3157.

July

3 Aberdeen Highland Games

A celebration of Scottish heritage. Includes a Robbie Burns Supper, grand parade and games, a traditional Ceilidh, and a Kirkin of the Tartan. For details visit www.aberdeenhighlandgames.com

4 Jazz at Catherine Vale

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

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. Sat to Mon - 10am to 6pm, Tue 10am to noon. For details call Graeme on 65745185 or David on 0429775556.

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.

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 Fri, Sat, Sun. 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 3, 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.



Image from *Bathing Franky*, courtesy of the Dungog Film Festival.



June

Open stART for The Weekend Australian Affordable Art Fair Sydney 2010

Seeking artists not formally represented in Sydney to exhibit their work. For full details Samantha Williams, Art Fairs Coordinator, 02 9331 7507 or samanthaw@singlemarketevents.com.au

Open Sunday Sessions in Mururundi

Looking for musicians or bands to perform on the first Sunday of each month until October. For all the details call Heather Ranclaud 6546 6024.

1 Auditions for Bobby The Musical

The Xstrata Coal Power of Music Programme with the Singleton Youth Venue and the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music are presenting this musical. Auditions being held 4-8pm, 31 May, 3 & 7 June at the Singleton Youth Venue. For an information pack please call Sam at the Singleton Youth Venue on 6571 4687

1 ACO Emerging Artists Program - apps close

Program connects the next generation of talented young Australian string players with members of the Australian Chamber Orchestra. www.aco.com.au

5 Gulgong Arts & Crafts Spectacular - entries close

There is a wide range of age groups and categories. This festival is held in conjunction with the Henry Lawson Heritage Festival, 12-14 June. http://artscouncilofgulgong.com/

8 Seeking a Director – Expressions of Interest cl

AUH seeks a director to work with PP Cranney on play about shift work. March to November 2011. For details contact Bridget Nicholson on 4992 1033, rado@artsupperhunter.com.au

11 Pix from the Stix Photography Competition - entries close

The focus of this competition is the Gloucester Shire and it's culture. Prize pool of \$1,500. Children and adult sections, and a range of categories. Entry forms Gloucester Information Centre or Gloucester Gallery.

11 The 3rd Blake Poetry Prize - entries close

The Blake Poetry Prize is a non-sectarian poetry prize that encourages Australian poets to engage in the dialogue between religion, spirituality and poetry in a new 100 line poem. The prize is \$5,000. For details http://www.blakeprize.com.au/about/blake-poetry

11 ACP Winter Book Fair - registrations close

Australian Centre for Photography are inviting booksellers to register for an opportunity to sell their

books. www.acp.org.au

15 2010 Muswellbrook Creative Arts Fair - expressions of interest close

Call for poets, artists, artisans, dancers, writers, and musicians to be part of the Creative Arts Fair on the 2nd October at the Muswellbrook Pothouse. For details call Scott Cooper on 0427 101 697 or Kevin Doherty, Muswellbrook Visitor Information Centre on 6541 4050 or visitorcentre@muswellbrook.org.au

25 The Singleton On Hunter Rotary Art Prize and Exhibition 2010 – entries close

There is a prize pool of \$10,000 and 11 sections: Traditional Prize, Watercolour Prize, Contemporary Prize, Pencil, Pen, Ink Prize, Flowers Prize, Still Life Prize, Miniature Prize, Local Prize, Youth Award (16-18yrs), Youth Award (12-15yrs), Youth Award (8-11 yrs). All sections winners acquisitive. For details call Graeme on 65745185 or David on 0429775556.

25 Countryscapes 2010 – entries close

The \$35,000 Country Energy Art Prize for Landscape Painting competition. For details www.countryenergy.com.au

25 Frost Over Barraba Art Festival - entries close

Total prize pool over \$4000, categories for painting, poetry and photography, total of 22 sections. For details Sonya Turner (Secretary) on 02 6782 1547 or via email at frosto@barraba@gmail.com

25 Parliament of NSW Aboriginal Art Prize – close

\$20,000 acquisitive prize for Indigenous artists born or living in NSW and belonging to a NSW language group. For details www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au

26 59th Blake Prize – entries close

The art prize explores the subject of religious awareness and spirituality. The Blake Prize \$20,000, John Coburn Emerging Artist Award \$5,000 (non-acquisitive), The Blake Prize for Human Justice \$5,000. Details www.blakeprize.com.au

30 'Page Turner' Short Story Competition – entries close

Turning the Pages, in conjunction with Upper Hunter Waterkeepers Alliance is holding this competition with a theme of *Water*. Word length under 21 years - up to 1000 words, and over 21 years up - to 2000 words. For details visit www.turningthepages.com.au

30 Band Showcase - expressions of interest close

This is an opportunity for young bands to perform to a panel of industry professionals and then participate in an informal feedback/professional development

session on 20th July at Headspace at 73 Elgin St Maitland. Majority of band members need to be under 25yrs and at least one from Cessnock, Maitland or Dungog LGA. For details contact Rebecca Fowles, 0407 891 650, rfowles@samaritans.org.au

30 The New England Tea Pot Show - expressions of interest close

The Glen Innes Art Gallery is inviting clay workers, sculptors, painters and fabric artists to honor the Tea Pot. For details call Anita Stewart on 02 6732 1356 or email teapotshow@hotmail.com

30 The Eric Rolls Prize General Division – entry cl

This prize is for prose fiction or nonfiction in the genre of natural history writing, not to exceed 6,000 words. For detail www.watermarkliterarysociety.asn.au

30 Dungog Chronicle Photo Competition - close

The winning photo will feature on the cover of the local phone book. Photos need to be vertical format min. 300 pixels. Entries to mail.dungogchronicle@ruralpress.com

July

9 Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards - entries cl

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

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.

30 The 2010 Norvill Art Prize – entries close

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



Kohde and Megan at Buskit 2010, photo courtesy of the Singleton Youth Venue.

June

1 Playing Australia – applications close

This is the Australian Government's national touring program for the performing arts. For details visit www.arts.gov.au/arts/playing_australia

1 Ian Potter Cultural Trust – applications close

The Trust has grants of up to \$7,000 for early career artists practising in a wide range of disciplines within the arts. Details visit www.ianpotterculturaltrust.org.au

4 Screen NSW Industry Development - apps cl

Grants of \$10,000-\$30,000 to screen-based organisations that provide opportunities for audiences to see and experience quality screen content and innovative practice. Details www.screen.nsw.gov.au

5 Freedman Foundation Travelling Scholarship for Emerging Artists - applications close

Provides assistance towards travel and/or tuition costs for young people building a career in the visual arts broadly in the areas of painting, photography or sculpture. <https://www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/freedman-foundation-travelling-scholarship-emerging-artists>

7 Metro Screen Jump Start Production – apps cl

\$45,000 annually in the form of equipment and facilities hire through the Jump Start Production Grants. For details visit www.metroscreen.org.au

11 Working Spaces 4 for Museum Volunteers bursaries - applications close

M&G NSW is offering bursaries to contribute to registration, meals, accommodation and travel costs for the 3 day conference, be held 15 to 17 October at Galong. Details <http://mgnsw.org.au/>, under News.

11 Brett Whitely Travelling Art Scholarship – ap cl

The scholarship consists of an amount of \$25,000 and a three-month residency at the Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris. http://www.brettwhiteley.org/whats_on/travelling_art_scholarship

21 ConnectEd Arts Programs – applications close

Part of Arts NSW Arts Funding Program, program offers 2 grants: ACCESS Project Funding - to assist in costs of school excursions, and OUTREACH Project Funding supports arts organisations' education programs in schools. <http://www.arts.nsw.gov.au/FundingOpportunities/ConnectEdArts/tabid/205/Default.aspx>



28 Arts NSW Funding Program - apps close
 Arts NSW offer a range of funding programs that support artists and arts and cultural organisations. 2011 Project Funding (Creation and Presentation) 2011 Project Funding (Strategic Industry Dev.) 2011 Project Funding (Capital Funding)
 For details visit www.arts.nsw.gov.au

July

15 Festivals Australia – applications close
 This is a 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

sheri's bon mot

"I place my mark and do not hide"

Isamu Noguchi

June

- 5 Bush Poetry Workshop with Glenn Palmer**
 Learn poetry writing and performance techniques. Hosted by the Singleton Bush Poets. Singleton Heights RSC, Dorsman Dr. Singleton. \$50.00 pp. 8am to 3pm. Bookings essential on 0408 007238 or bailey.electrical@hunterlink.net.au
- 5, 12, 19 Felt-making Workshop with Giselle Penn**
 Go to all workshops or just one, each will have a new focus and project. Bookings essential. 10am to 4pm, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, 230 High St. For details call 4934 9859 or visit www.mrag.org.au
- 17 Show Me The Money**
 For artists (all disciplines) who want to expand income sources and career development opportunities. Presenter is Stephen Clark.

9:30 am to 4:30pm Gloucester School of Arts, Denison St. Gloucester. \$30. Details and registration form on www.artsupperhunter.com.au under projects or call Arts Upper Hunter. Registrations close 14th.

18 Junction 2010 Early Bird Registration closes
 The 7th biennial Regional Arts Australia national conference in Launceston 26-29 August. For all the details visit www.junction2010.com

26&27 Oils with Gwendolin Lewis
 Workshop is being held by the Scone Arts & Crafts. For details call Terry Cox on 6541 4641.

July

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.

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.

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

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.

Artsbark is the 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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