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MAY 2010 ISSUE 59

artsbark

editor's desk

Funding is big on the list this month with eight projects across the region being successful in their CASP applications totalling \$17,109. A number of projects are focused on opportunities for young people; there will be drama workshops at the Historic Tocal Homestead, NIDA (National Institute of Dramatic Art) will run a program in acting and improvisation at the Sandy Hollow public school, and two programs of writing workshops, one for youth and one for children at the Singleton library. For a full listing of projects please refer www.artsupperhunter.com.au/projects.

Arts NSW funding round for 2011 has just opened. Closing date for project funding is 28 June, see www.arts.nsw.gov.au for the full description of categories available and eligibility. The program covers all forms of cultural practice including music, theatre, dance, literature, museums, history, and visual arts and crafts. Of interest to many may be a new category of small grants open to individuals and small organisations, with a 6-week turn around period. This category will be offered four times a year making it much more accessible.

Regional Arts NSW and Arts Upper Hunter will be putting on a workshop specifically for arts funding at the Singleton Community College on 26 May. Session presenter, Ben Sibson, is currently the Funding Officer at Regional Arts NSW. Ben has seen Grants processes from the varying perspectives of an applicant, an assessor and an administrator.

If you need to get out and get inspired the National Regional Arts Conference this year is being held in Launceston, Tasmania. Entitled *Junction 2010* the festival combines a program of 45 individual sessions with speakers national and international including: Robyn Archer, Marcus Westbury, Deborah Conway, Elizabeth Walsh, Jane Haley and a rich array of practicing artists, academics, researchers, philosophers, philanthropists, poets, arts enthusiasts and community developers. There will also be a packed program of social events, exhibitions and opportunities to get your hand in and participate; be it in weaving, male dancing, or speed meeting (whatever that is)! Numbers are limited to 1000, so get your

tickets and accommodation sooner rather than later. www.junction2010.com.au.

It is also good to see our own artists and presenters going outside the region to show their 'stuff'. "Dairy Good for a Healthy Community" was the theme depicted by students of St Joseph's Primary School, Dungog, when they painted a life-sized fibreglass cow for Dairy Australia at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. The cows were part of the Picasso Cows education project aimed at teaching students, teachers and parents about the health and nutritional benefits of dairy products. The Year 1 class did drawings of people and animals in their rural environment which were put onto the cow in situ in Sydney by Elliott, Thomas, Oliver, Evie and Estelle Shore joined by the school's teacher librarian, Anne Fisher.



Picasso Cow with Elliott, Estelle, Evie, Oliver and Thomas Shore, and Anne Fisher. Photo courtesy of Ella Fisher.

You may like to partake of a new Professional Artist's Studio Trail, the initiative of painter/print maker Debra Liel-Brown. The trail is a self-drive tour visiting three professional



artist's studios and a scenic cafe or pub, in a round trip. The main artists involved are career professionals that you would normally see in Sydney's top galleries or Regional galleries. The tours will happen the last Sunday of every month starting in April going through to November. The schedule of studios will be available each month at www.debraliel-brown@iprimus.com.au. We have also received an offer from a band the *Wheelers and Dealers* www.wheelersanddealers.com.au. who are an award winning acoustic Celtic roots band of five players from Sydney and the Blue Mountains. They would love to put on a concert somewhere in the region on Saturday 7 August, preferably with some accommodation (billeting is fine). Anyone interested refer www.wheelersanddealers.com.au and contact Christine Wheeler 0408 276 436.

Finally, a big thank you to Sheri McEvoy, Henry Boot and the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music for hosting PP Cranney's first residency in the area for the 'Shift' play project. Pat has had a wonderful time; he has spoken to a wide range of people, given workshops at the libraries and at St Catherine's in Singleton, and the Muswellbrook High School, as well as being well fed and entertained. We look forward to seeing the first draft! On Pat's next residency we hope to have some public readings and working sessions. The project program will be updated regularly on our website for those interested in following progress.

May

1&2 **Scone High School P&C and Staff Quilt Show**

Weekend features quilts made by parents and staff. Stall holders include: Busy Needles, Eddies Sewing, Scrap & Patch, Shop-in-the-Shed and Southern Cross Needlework. Entry includes cuppa, sandwich & slice. Scone High School, Gundy St, Scone. 10am to 4pm. For more details call Tonia on 6545 1008.

1 **Clicks From A Timeless Land by Chris Russell**

Chris Russell has invented and developed a unique style of landscape photography which he calls 'real abstractions'. Exhibition runs until 23rd. Gloucester Gallery, Denison St., Gloucester. Open 10am to 4pm Fri, Sat, Sun. For details please call Leanne 0428 508704 or 02 6558 3157

1-16 **2010 Scone & Upper Hunter Horse Festival**

This is a 17-day festival celebrating horses. It features a wide range of events including street parade, fete, rodeo, ball and picnic day. For all the details visit www.horsecapital.com.au

1 **Hannah Kay - Weightlessness, a survey 2003 - 2010, Anzac Day Exhibition and Worlds Apart - Gutt, McIntosh & Perrin**

Exhibitions run until 6th June.

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

1&2 **Clay Energy 2010**

This is a week-long international festival of clay and ceramics. The festival includes talks, demonstrations, exhibitions etc. Held at Gulgong every third year. For details and to register visit www.ceramicart.net.au

1 **The Olive Tree Market**

This is Newcastle's dedicated artisans market with over 100 stalls. Junction Public School, Union Street, The Junction, 9am-3pm. For more details call Justine Gaudry on 0439649058.

1 **The Cultural Stomp Festival**

This is Newcastle's annual celebration of community, cultural diversity, the environment and social justice. There will be markets, food and info stalls, wellness zone, music, visual and performing arts, forums and creative workshops. Free entry. 9am to 6pm, Civic Park, Newcastle. For details visit <http://www.myspace.com/culturalstomp>

1 **Head On Portrait Prize**

This is Australia's most critically acclaimed photographic portrait competition. Exhibition includes the works of 40 finalists. Runs until 5 June.

Australian Centre for Photography, 257 Oxford Street, Paddington, Tue - Fri, 12.00 - 7.00pm, Sat & Sun 10.00am - 6.00pm. Free entry. www.acp.org.au

5 **Two Colours and Touch of Japan Exhibitions**

Two Colours is an exhibition of Ceramic Art by Kiyotaka Hashimoto and Kumiko Hashimoto. *Touch of Japan* is calligraphy from Carré MOJI Art Gallery Tokyo. Runs until the 31st. Official Opening 7th at 6:30pm.

Haydon Hall, 66 Mayne St, Murrurundi. Wed to Sun 10am to 5pm. Phone 6546 6969.

7 **Scone Arts & Crafts Inc 2010 Members Exhibition & Sale**

Exhibition will include members' works of pottery, wrought-iron work, painting, sculpture, craft, spinning, & handicrafts as well as the Scone Horse Week Photographic Competition. Runs until 16 May. Opening 6pm, drinks and light refreshments. Scone Arts & Crafts Hall, Kingdon St, Scone. Opens daily 10am. For details call Scott Cooper on 0427 101 697.

7&8 **The Gifts of the Furies**

This is a mythic drama and song story, and is the first Australian art work to recognise the mythic nature of the climate crisis. It is presented by Transition Town

Newcastle. For details visit www.transitionnewcastle.org.au:

8-29 **Running Riot**

This comical farce by Derek Benfield is being presented by S.C.A.D.S. Old Court Theatre, Kingdon St, Scone. 8pm, May 8, 12, 13, 15, 21, 22, 23 (matinee 2pm), 27, 28 & 29. Tickets Halletts Solicitors, Liverpool St, Scone. Enquiries Kate Mailer 6545 1933 or Gillian Hayes 6545 2064.

11 **'Use and Beauty : The Gardens of Worlitz'**

A lecture by Mr Steven Desmond MA IF Hort NADFAS. This evening is being presented by the ADFAS Scone. 6 for 6:30 pm, St Luke's Hall, Liverpool St, Scone. For more details call Barbie on 6545 0471 or Jill on 6545 1822.

11 **Screening of A Streetcar Named Desire**

This is the 1951 motion picture of Tennessee Williams starring Vivien Leigh and Marlon Brando. 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 11th, call 6543 7150 or 6543 6267.

14&15 **Shakespeare On Avon Festival**

This year's performance is *A Midsummer Nights Dream* presented by *Stooged Theatre*. The festival includes Saturday markets featuring medieval jousting, dancing & stalls, plus 'The Feast' is being served both evenings. Friday & Saturday evenings, with a Saturday matinee. Various ticket prices. For details call the Gloucester Information Centre on 6558 1408 or visit www.gloucester.org.au and select "events".

16 **A Violin, a Soprano and The Piano Man**

Philip Sketchley, at the piano, Peta Dries and Patricia Woods will bring to life music for the violin and voice. 2pm, Sisters of Mercy Convent Chapel, 30 Queen Street, Singleton. Tickets (includes afternoon tea): \$25 adults, \$20 concession, \$5 school students. To book call 6572 2398 or visit www.sacredspaces.org.au

23 **Antipodean Mandolin Ensemble Concert**

The AME will be performing a range of music including Neapolitan, Latin, classical, traditional and contemporary music, contemporary on mandolin and other stringed instruments. This is a fundraiser for the group to perform at *Eurofestival Zupfmuzik 2010*. 2pm, Putty Hall, 408 Putty Valley Road. Hall open from noon. \$20 includes refreshments, tickets call Kathy McKenzie on 6579 7047. Details www.putty.nsw.au/events

27-30 **Dungog Film Festival**

This is an annual film festival celebrating Australian films. The festival offers a program Australian features, documentaries, shorts, music videos, television and animation. For all the details and to book your tickets please visit www.dungogfilmfestival.org

28&29 **Opera in the Church**

The graduates and students from The Opera Unit of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music will be accompanied by Sharolyn Kimmorley AM, as they perform a musical extravaganza of music ranging from *Gilbert & Sullivan*, operatic arias, musical comedy and operetta. Includes light supper. 7:30pm, Uniting Church, Cowper Street, Gloucester. Tickets \$35, from Webb Bros 6558 1507, or Gloucester Health Foods. For enquires call Susan on 6550 2591.

28-30 **19th Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Eisteddfod, Piano Division**

Muswellbrook South Public School, 57 Maitland Street, Muswellbrook. Gold coin donation. Fri 6-9pm, Sat 9am to 12pm, 1-4pm, 6-8pm, Sun 9am-12pm, 1-4pm. For more details please call Denise 6541 1065.

30 **The Professional Artist's Studio Trail**

The Studio Trail is a unique twist on the relaxing Sunday drive. It is a half-day's entertainment in a set format which is a self-drive tour, visiting three professional artists' studios and a scenic cafe or pub, in a round trip. Trail 1 Raymond Terrace, Paterson, Newcastle. Trail 2 Merewether, Glendale, Lambton, Wickham. Last Sunday of each month until November. 11am to 4pm, For details www.artiststudiotrail.com or call Debra Liel-Brown 4987 7947.

Open **Happy Days Hard Days**

This exhibition celebrates women's contribution to the development of Dungog and district in colonial times and the early 20th century. Runs until mid-2011. Dungog Museum, 105 Dowling Street, Dungog. Open Saturday & Wednesdays 10am to 3pm. For details call Rex 49922094, Allan 49921760 or Marie 49921993



Antipodean Mandolin Ensemble. Photo courtesy of AME.

June

1-30 **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. www.hvg.com.au

2-14 57th Annual Sydney Film Festival

Program being announced 7 May. For details and to book tickets please visit sff.org.au

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

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. Runs until 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).

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

25 Pix From the Stix Photographic Competition

Exhibition runs until 18th July. Gloucester Gallery, Denison St., Gloucester. Open 10am -4pm Fri, Sat, Sun. For details please call Leanne 0428 508704 or 02 6558 3157.



Sheri McEvoy and PP Cranney

May

7 Festival Co-Director - applications close

The Crack Theatre Festival is looking for a creative and committed individual to take the reigns of the 2010 and 2011 Festivals, alongside existing Co-Directors. http://cracktheatrefestival.com/crack_codirector_application_form.doc

14 19th Muswellbrook & Upper Hunter Eisteddfod, Dance Division - entries close

Being held 12 to 16 July at Muswellbrook High School Multi-Purpose Centre, Muswellbrook. For all the details of the various sections, cost and an entry form please visit www.muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au/

21 Australian National Bush Poetry Championships 2010 – entries close

Organised by the Bundaberg Poets' Society Inc. For details http://www.abpa.org.au/Bush_Poetry/Championships/Australian_Bush_Poets_Championships.html

June

1 ACO Emerging Artists Program - apps close

Program connects the next generation of talented

artist opportunities

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/>
- 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 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.
- 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 Countryscapes 2010 – entries close**
The \$35,000 Country Energy Art Prize for Landscape Painting competition. For details www.countryenergy.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 2nd International "Art of Good Health and Wellbeing" Arts and Health Conference – call for papers close**
Conference is being held 16-19th November, Melbourne. Details www.artsandhealth.org/conferences-events/the-art-of-good-health-and-wellbeing-melbourne-2010/call-for-abstracts.html

May

Open Arts NSW Funding Program

Arts NSW offer a range of funding programs that support artists and arts and cultural organisations. 2010 & 2011 Screen Audience Dev. close 3 May
2011 Program Funding (Annual) close 31 May
2011 Project (Performing Arts Touring) close 31 May
2011 Project (Creation and Presentation) close 28 June
2011 Project (Strategic Industry Dev.) close 28 June
2011 Project Funding (Capital Funding) close 28 June
2011 Project Funding (Quick Response) close 2 August
For details visit www.arts.nsw.gov.au

15 Janet Holmes a Court Artists' Grant - applications close

Provides assistance towards the costs of public presentation of visual arts, craft and design. Individuals and groups can apply. For details visit <http://www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/vcags>

17 Artists in Schools, Extended Residencies - applications close

The aim is to providing students, teachers, parents and the wider school community with opportunities to work with professional artists. For details <http://www.connectedarts.nsw.gov.au>

28 Windmill Trust Scholarship for Regional NSW Artists - applications close

This scholarship of \$5,000 is to assist regional visual artists. <http://www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/windmill-trust-scholarship-regional-nsw-artists>

June

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.

For more Artist Opportunities, Grants and Residences visit www.artsupperhunter.com.au

sheri's bon mot

"Enlightenment is a yellow vegetable"

Ian Fairweather



May

3 Adult Acting Classes

Hunter Valley Actors Centre in Maitland is starting a new course of weekly classes. Call 0407457966 or visit www.huntervalleyactorscentre.com.au

7 How to Block a Felt Hat

The demonstration will involve the blocking (moulding & shaping) of felt over a wooden hat block: how it is stretched, secured, dried, 'sized' and finished. 5.30pm to 6.30pm, Mad Hatter Millinery, Shop 18/19, Terrace Level, 119 Hunter Street, Newcastle. 0439 549 563 or www.madhattermillinery.net

15 Landscape Design & Environmental Art Workshop

A half day workshop with Barbara Schaffer and Jennifer Turpin, hosted by the Turning of the Pages inc. Open to residents of Murrurundi district. 9.30am, RSL Hall Murrurundi. Bookings (by 10th) and enquiries to Jean Davies 65466274, jean_davies@bigpond.com

21 Wollongong Community Music Day

Full day program with presentations, discussions, networking and a talk by Nick Rheinberger from ABC Illawarra. For details http://musicplayforlife.org:80/index.php?option=com_dtregister&eventId=1&Itemid=0&task=event_register&type=reg_options

22 Non-Toxic Printmaking Workshop

A day of creative printmaking using non-toxic relief and intaglio methods. Cost \$80 includes all artist quality plate making materials, inks and paper. Shiloh Art Studio, Martins Creek (near Paterson). For details www.berniemeyers.com or call Bernie 4938 8142.

26 Grants Writing Workshop with Ben Sibson, Funding Officer of Regional Arts NSW.

A general group information session covering all major arts funding programs (especially RAF, Arts NSW and Australia Council), and a specific skills development session on grant-writing techniques. Free. Singleton Community College, York St, Singleton. 11am-1:30pm with one on one meetings available afterwards. For booking call Arts Upper Hunter 6545 9727, or email admin@artsupperhunter.com.au

29&30 Pastels with Rod Bathgate

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

Wednesdays - Landscape Painting Classes with Adrienne Crouch

Classes are held each Wednesday, at selected venues around the Pokolbin area. 10am to 1pm. For all the details and to book call Adrienne on 4930 7405.

June

5 Bush Poetry Workshop with Glenny 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

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.

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

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.

Correction to the April Issue of Artsbark

Page 5. The picture of David Mahoney was taken with his work at the *Sandy Hollow Sculpture Garden*.

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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