



PORT STEPHENS COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

NEWSLETTER

1 July 2022

Cultural Close, off Shoal Bay Road, NELSON BAY. 2315

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From the President

Welcome to all the new members! May your creativity flourish and new friendships blossom!

Application forms for new members are held by group leaders and not to be given out at the sales desk. Please give any potential applicants an Activities Brochure and encourage them to attend the group or groups they are interested in, which they can do at no charge. This allows them to judge if the group suits them and allows them to get to know other members who can support their application. If an applicant does not want to join a group, please ask them to phone or visit Secretary Louise in the office on Mondays.

Membership renewals are due on 30th June. Late renewals after 31st July, will need to pay an additional \$5 to re-join.

The Spinners and Weavers group have produced a stunning display of their work in the annex. There are many colourful and wearable items created with beautiful natural fibres, wool, silk, alpaca and cotton.

The Annual General Meeting of the members of the Arts Centre will be on Tuesday **13th September** at 11am following the General Meeting. There are likely to be several vacancies on the Board so if you are interested in contributing to the running of our Arts Centre or just need more information, please come and have a chat with me or any other Board Members.

The COVID restrictions have disrupted the Centre's usual schedule for public events. So, hopefully now we can get back on track. The Port Stephens Art Prize and exhibition will be held next year from 24th March for 10 days. The Bonsai Show will be back at the beginning of Spring 2023 and the Quilt Show will be held in 2024. In addition to the usual Art Prize awards categories, there will be a prize for fabric arts sponsored by the Fusion group, for Excellence in Fabric Art.

After the heavy rain earlier this year, the driveway to the Woodies shed was damaged leaving a potholed and gutted surface. It will be re surfaced with concrete, to create an all -weather surface.

Carolyn



Gallery Manager

I hope you've found somewhere warm and cosy to enjoy your winter creativity!

What's On NOW

SHOWING: *Fire and Ice*



COMING SOON: 13 July to 23 August we will hang our exhibition that contains two separate themes: *Portraiture*, and *Abstract Expressions*. Do come through the gallery, and take a look at what our creative members have on show.

RAFFLES We are now ready to resume our Art Centre Raffles . . . all we need is someone who is able to be the prize co-ordinator. We will now only hold 4 raffles per year; Show (Art Prize or Quilt), Winter, Spring and the Christmas Hampers. All prizes are donated by groups, and are a valuable source of income for our community. If you are able to take on this responsibility, please contact the office on a Monday morning, or by email to pscac.office@artscentrenelsonbay.org.au

SPRING AFFAIR: Saturday 10 September needs to be noted in your diary – it sounds a long way off, but we need plenty of time to plan our displays, demonstrations, and activities. It would be lovely to give our visitors an over-all picture of what our centre offers members. We will also need helpers throughout the day for sales of cakes, plants, sausage sizzle, greeting visitors, etc. Many hands make light work, so if you are able to assist for a few hours, that would be very much appreciated.

Many of our groups are coming up with some exciting plans; if you haven't already let me know details for your group, please make sure you do this asap. There will be a meeting of all group representatives at 9am on Tuesday 19 July, to finalise all the little details. **Di Adamson.**

email: nd2315@gmail.com phone: 0414 756 118



Photo's taken at previous Spring Affair



Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

Café News

Please be aware and tell anyone you know who comes to the cafe that we will be closed for winter,

that is June, July and August

Madeleine Quinlan

Craft with Wendy

Hello everyone. From now on I hope to be available (with at least one exception 3/8) each Wednesday afternoon for Quilling and/or Polymer Clay. All in together, whoever wants to join me. Please drop me a phone message each week to let me know if you would like to be there. I think there should be at least 3 of us there to be worthwhile. So if I'm not expecting two or more I will have to cancel that day. I hope this sounds fair. I really hope to see you as much as possible. This arrangement will remain in place until the end of September. learning about Polymer Clay and how to manipulate it for different results.

Wendy Lane.



Exhibition Team

Gallery: Fire and Ice
Hall: Music
Next Gallery Exhibition
Portraiture tag 7/22
13 July to 23 August

Here, you will find a conscious use of the imagination in the production of paintings, photography, drawings, textiles and free standing sculptures.

Please take a moment before you deliver your artwork to the Arts Center checking that:

- your items are properly wired with d-hooks for hanging,



- the glass and framework is cleaned without finger marks, and
- New tag on the front with older tag on the back - as previously demonstrated.

Please also note that our new lighting will highlight any unwanted imperfections.

If you have any queries please see Marianne or Judy.

Congratulations to our artists whom have recently sold paintings. Also thank you to all the exhibitors who support and exercise the tremendous wealth of talent at PSCAC.

Lastly, many thanks to the Hanging Team
Marianne and Judy
Painters Exhibition Coordinators



Life Drawing

As part of the Skills enhancement grant, we were fortunate to have 3 mornings with Bruce Rowland, previous head of Art at Newcastle TAFE and well-known Artist. Some used methods previously untried by them while others polished their skills, all agreed that the exercises were extremely beneficial. We now look forward to a Portrait workshop later in the year.

Robyn Bailey.

"White Sheet" by Artist Bruce Rowland

Monday Morning Painters



We love sharing our joy of art with community groups. The Monday Painters as well as Spinners and Weavers ignited the appreciation of art in our young community.

Our group is going well, everyone enjoying painting together again.

Moira Coulson

Garden Group

Hi Everyone and welcome to winter! It has been nice to see some sunny weather of late, gives the mould a chance to dry out a bit! Our mosses in the garden are thriving with these weather conditions so check them out next time you are at the centre.



We had the kids from Karingal preschool visit recently and part of their tour was a walk through the gardens. Of course, they loved the Fairy Garden and then I showed them the secret garden at the back of the Westralia room. We have a (pseudo) wombat in an old log up there, a couple of gnomes and a dinosaur's nest. Yvonne and Frank started this a couple of years ago. We also have a few other dinosaur nests in the garden, with eggs of course....and the kids love it. Metta and

Frank started building them with the abundance of twigs that we have, and they look great. We could do with a few more gnomes to put in the secret garden if anyone has any that are lonely and looking to hang out with friends.

Heads up everyone, the Spring Fair is in again this September so please get potting soon so your plants will be strong when you bring them in for sale. Roger Rigney has recently donated a heap so over the next few months we will be giving our stock heaps of TLC to get them looking good.

The garden is looking good and a big thank you to Wayne and the rest of the garden volunteers for their efforts. It's a great team. We are all looking forward to Spring when the garden starts to come alive with colour again.

Helen Love.



Spinners and Weavers Group

The Spinners & Weavers group have had a busy few weeks with our three day camp at the Retreat in mid-May followed by the annual display of our items in the Gallery, this year in the annex.

The display in the Gallery coincided with a very cold start to Winter which resulted in some great sales but left the display decimated after the first week! Oh no five weeks to go and no stock in reserve. A frantic email to our members brought a surprising amount of new stock and sales have continued at a steady rate. Well done Ladies.



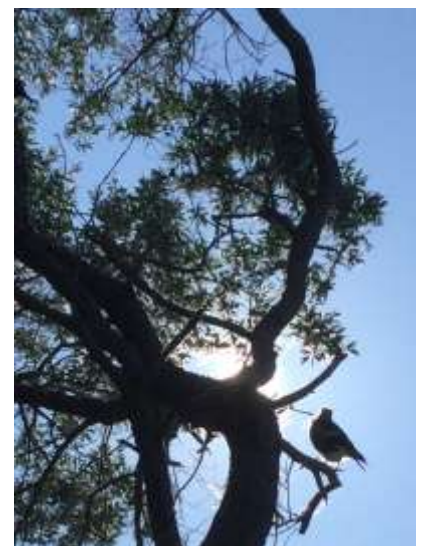
Our camp was a whole lot of fun with thirteen members participating and three workshops to keep everyone busy. We dyed silk scarves, made a fibre sandwich and tried our hand with polymer clay making buttons and jewellery. There was plenty of time to just sit, spin and chat and everyone helped out with kitchen duties. The perpetual trophy for Best Dressed at formal night was won by the Tea Gardens Ladies who have set a very high standard. We are all looking forward to next year.

Melanie Delaney.



Wednesday Painters

We have moved again this time to Barry Park Fingal Bay. It has been a while since we have been here so it will be a new experience for some of us. This popular tourist spot will provide us with a varied range of subjects and assist in the promotion of our exhibition in July/August. *Robyn Bailey.*



Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

Patchwork Groups

Tuesday Patchwork ladies held the Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea at the Art Centre on 24 May 2022, we invited all members & friends of the Centre. The Woodies & partners, The Embroidery ladies, The Thursday Patchwork Ladies came along with family & friends. We raised \$ 382.00 with the help of the Thursday Patchwork ladies having a Trading Table and donations of gifts for the raffles & lucky doors prizes. We had a lovely spread of yummy food brought by everyone to share, so we didn't go hungry. Wendy Harvey compered a quick Trivia Brain Teaser with great competitive results. The Woodies won most of the prizes of chocolates. We were delighted by the numbers of lovely people who attended. Sorry we were so enjoying ourselves we forgot to take photos.

making a round draw string pouch with Nolda. The ladies found it a handy bag to use for knitting or storing their patchwork.

In June, Thursday ladies had a mini workshop with Sally, making folded star mug mats

Margaret and Wendy



In May, Thursday had a workshop



Tai Chi

Monday and Thursday mornings 10-11am.

We are still enjoying Taylor's Beach and the benefits Tai Chi brings to those of us who practise this ancient form of exercise. We are also continuing to welcome new members. .

Robyn Bailey



 **Stitches & Art**
2/22 Donald Street, Nelson Bay, 2315
(02) 4984 2587

If you haven't had a chance to visit us in a while, please pop in next time you're around to see how we've expanded our range and grown with the support of our community.

- Fabric
- Haberdashery & Notions
- Wool
- Crochet and Knitting
- Cubbies
- Janome Machine Dealers
- Brother Machine Dealers
- Basic Machine Servicing
- Embroidery Services

www.stitchesandart.com | www.facebook.com/stitchesandart

Embroidery Group.

Our group is going well with our leader traveling the country. We are progressing on our new skills learned at the Buon Natale decorations workshop

Sue George



Potter of the Month

Marilyn Dawes, has always been interested in art and pottery since her school days. Sculpture has always been her favourite, especially Gargoyles, who always watch out for evil. Marilyn did manage to achieve some pieces on a small scale at home. It was only when she had an opportunity to move to Nelson Bay from the North Shore of Sydney 12 years ago, that her life changed! Joining the Art Centre has enabled her to tap into her creative nature. The many true friends within the Arts Centre that share her passion and interest is incredible. Marilyn is thankful for being given the chance to create and embrace all that she loves. One amazing thing she did learn from recent family history research is that on her dad's side of the family, ancestor women potters show up and the men were also potters and were also potters and journeymen, from the 1860.



Artists of the Month

Sylvia Heath, started her working career as a visual merchandiser, working as a window dresser in the UK. Then in 1970, with her husband David and her two children, she emigrated to South Africa. Here she continued as a freelance window dresser for many years, until joining David's employment agency, running the office. At the same time, she had great fun producing stage Revues for Rotary for many years, thereby raising quite a lot of money for local charities. Sylvia was involved with everything from acting, to helping with costume design to create one-off costumes, and a myriad of other tasks involved in putting a season together. Doing this for 14 years has left her with many happy memories of those times.

Sylvia didn't think about painting till at the age of 55 her sister Kate, a beautiful artist in her own right, said *"you've tried everything else, have a go at painting."*

Sylvia started painting in South Africa in 1999 in water colour then moved onto oils and pastels. She has had quite a few commissions over the years for wildlife



paintings and won 1st prize in the wildlife category at The Cape Art Society in Simons Town. She also won several prizes at the Kirsten Bosh Art show. Sylvia then moved to Australia in 2017 to Corlette after spending 46 years in South Africa.

What a joy it is to be part of Port Stephens Community Art Centre. Sylvia paints in most mediums, but particularly enjoys working with pastels. painting wildlife and flowers. These elements are what inspire and delight her!

Diane Baillie has been painting since 1990 and was a member of Liverpool Art Society for several years. She also did life drawing at the Powerhouse Gallery at Casula and is largely self-taught. Diane has gained many tips from various workshops she has attended.



Since moving to Nelson Bay on retirement she has been painting on a regular basis with the Monday Painting Group at Port Stephens Community Arts Centre.

After spending a month in Japan, Dianne's love of Oriental Arts was rekindled. She works mostly in watercolours and pen. and gives an aged finish to her works with the use of black tea.

Diane has sold hundreds of her Oriental Works. Diane and is Featured Artist at Port Stephens Community Arts Centre from 13 July – 23 August 2022.

Peoples Choice

Congratulations to Nada O'Loughlin Yonge the latest winner in the People's Choice Award for her very popular painting 'Disturbing the Peace'.

Don't forget if you are on desk duty to encourage our

visitors to vote for the People's Choice Award, open to all items in the Gallery. It is an especially good way to occupy children visiting the Gallery.

Melanie Delaney

Woodworkers Group

The CWA asked if we could make them a weatherproof book exchange enclosure, so two of our members, John Antcliffe and Geoff McClelland, got to work and made this book exchange as shown. It's got an aluminium roof and is painted in their colours and with their logo. It's bolted to the base and the base is bolted to a slab, so it won't be easy to move if anyone takes a shine to it! The CWA ladies were very pleased!

It looks like our driveway alongside the Barn is finally going to get fixed. Mark Plant from Plant Concrete and Civil, who built our workshop extension, has offered his time and equipment to help us resurface it. The Arts Centre are on board and we are very grateful for their support.



Schools Back? We're hoping that school projects are back

after two years of absence from Covid. Karingal Pre School have asked us to help them with 50 tool box kits to be made up for a Father's Day celebration in September. Where fathers, grandfathers and of course the children enjoy



making the boxes together. Let's hope it's a good sign for the other schools.

Roger Delaney.

Fusion Group

All the Fusioners have been busy making "inchies"..embroidered felt squares with a Nature theme . We will be assembling these as a wall hanging that will be a future prize in a Raffle for the PSCAC...when finally completed.

We are having a look at Seascapes and Landscapes this month and those that were interested took up the challenge have made some great pieces...Next Month's Topic is "DO your own Thing" So it will be exciting to see what members come up with... I know I'll be tackling some of the UFOs that I have yet to do.

I would like to acknowledge Sheila Francis as a creative and prolific member that has been Fusion group leader for a good many years but is now stepping back due to family commitments. Thankfully she is still able to attend Fusion group most weeks so we still have her creative genius to draw on, as well as her great stories and life experiences.

We have an overseas visitor attending for a few weeks. She is quite amazed at the variety of work made in the

group and enjoying joining in the fun.

All members and visitors are welcome to come see what the Fusioners get up to on Wednesday mornings...

Lesley Lewis.



Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

Desk Duty Report

We have had a number of desk duty workers away or sick so thank you to those people who have been able to do additional duties.

At this stage I have been advised that 3 people have withdrawn from the roster from July. Fortunately, I have been able to make some changes and the only vacancy now is the third Sunday morning each month. Please let me know if you are able to fill this spot.

A number of roster people have let me know that they will be away for their duty in July, August and September. please let me know if you can assist with the following shifts for three months.

- 1st Thursday morning - starting 7th July
- 3rd Friday morning - starting 15th July
- 5th Saturday morning -
- 30th July and 30th September

I also have the following vacancies to fill in July.

- 1st Monday morning
- 1st Monday afternoon
- 1st Tuesday afternoon
- 1st Wednesday afternoon
- 2nd Tuesday morning
- 2nd Tuesday afternoon
- 3rd Saturday morning - 16th July.

HELP - please phone me if you can help at any of the above times.

Margaret Polack 0407246278 or 49811442



Artisan Collective

What's on at Artisan Collective

'Ponder' opening night is coming up fast! The joint exhibition by Art by Gennifer and Rheannon Murray will open on Saturday the 2nd of July at 5pm.

Tickets are not required but please register your attendance by marking yourself as 'going' via our Facebook event, or getting in touch with us directly (artisancollectiveps@gmail.com or direct message on FB/IG)

We are really looking forward to this exhibition, with Gennifer recently undertaking the artist in residence at the Lighthouse Arts Newcastle where some of her exhibiting works were created!

We look forward to you joining us, we'll see you soon at the AC!

Future Exhibitions will be Nanette Bassier and Ileana Clarke in August, and Pablo Tapia in September.

Artisan Collective

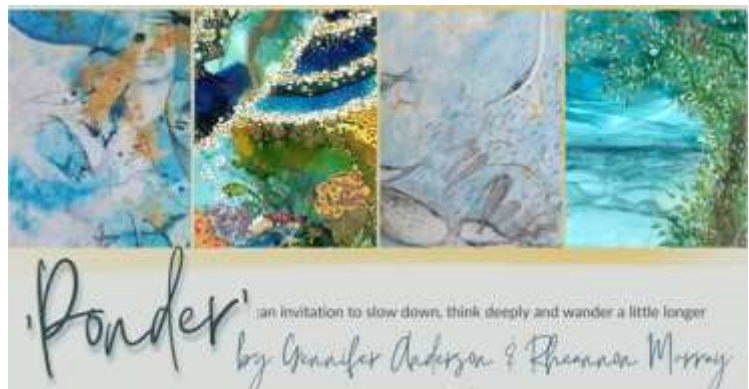
Ground floor, d'Albora Marinas, Nelson Bay

7 days a week,

Winter trading 10am – 4pm

Summer trading 9am – 5pm

Email: artisancollectiveps@gmail.com



Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

Watercolour Painters

The Workshop held on 21 / 22 May was attended by members from the 3 painting groups mixing and getting to know each other.

Thank Meryl for your efforts to gain grants that can be used for the benefit of a lot of our members.

We were able to keep the cost for members to an affordable

price with the grant money and the extra being met by the painters groups.

We are all geared up now for our next Watercolour Workshop due this Saturday the 2nd July. Our tutor this time is Harry Westera.

Harry is another very experienced tutor we were lucky to get. Fourteen members from all the different painting groups are participating.



Our last workshop was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone with a lot of knowledge of the watercolour medium gained by all.

We also have the possibility of another one later in the year.

Nada Yonge

Bonsai Group

After our very successful exhibition in April we have had 4 new members join us to learn about the art of bonsai and they are most welcome. During winter is a good time to clean up the trees and take off any moss creeping up the trunks of trees and remove any weeds. Wiring can be done now, just keep an eye on them when they start to grow again in Spring, and deciduous trees can be pruned.

There is to be a trading table on the 21 July so bring in any second-hand pots you no longer need. We are also looking into purchasing wire in bulk to be available to members at a reasonable price.

Happy Bonsaing! **Carol Rigby.**

