



# PORT STEPHENS COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

## NEWSLETTER

May 2021

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

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### From the President

After all that rain, the gentle autumn weather is easy to take, with sunny days, colourful sunsets and cool nights.

The General Meeting on 20 March was well attended with many members having their say. The meeting confirmed Joana Johnston as the board member responsible for building maintenance, and she has certainly been kept busy over the past month attending to rain damage repairs. Some members asked for more certainty about our Newsletter.

We plan to produce it every two months, towards the end of February, April, June, August, October and December.

### DIARY DATES

- Garden working bee has been scheduled for 4 May from 8.30am
- Café reopens Saturday 8 May
- Planning meeting for the Spring Affair 9.30 18 May in the Manoora room.
- Group Leaders meeting 1 June 9am Manoora Room

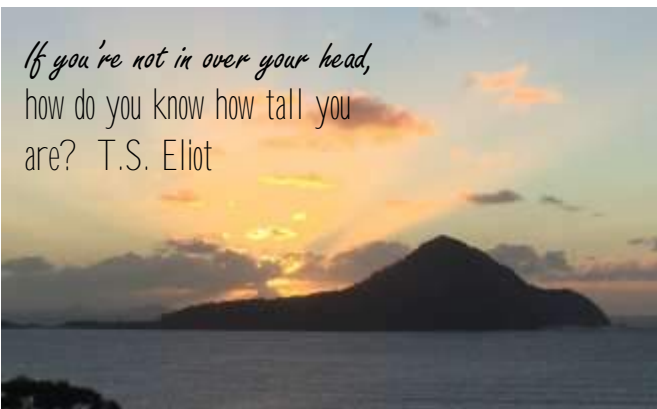
**Carolyn Virgona**



### Thought for the day:

*To do the useful thing, to say the courageous thing, to contemplate the beautiful thing: that is enough for one person's life. T.S. Eliot*

*If you're not in over your head,  
how do you know how tall you  
are? T.S. Eliot*



### People's Choice Award

Due to a slow start to the year with very few votes cast for our first Gallery Exhibition, we decided to carry over voting to include the second exhibition period.

So congratulations to Ann Margaret Mills the lucky winner of a Coffee & Cake voucher for two at our Garden Café.

Votes were cast over a wide range of categories including painting, pottery, knitting, weaving, paper tole and woodwork. Don't forget if you are doing desk duty to encourage our visitors to vote in the People's Choice Award.

**Melanie**

# Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

## Painters Display Team

Marianne and Judy would like to thank the PSCAC Display Team for another tremendous effort in creating such a wonderful display.

Two Exhibitions are now being featured.

**Hall - Keep it Small**

**Gallery - Exploring Faces and Spaces**

**NEXT EXHIBITION 9 JUNE TO 27 JULY**

GALLERY - What's on Your Plate

ANNEX WALL - Pastels - What's on Your Plate

\* Pls refer to your [Exhibition Calendar](#)

Our small group of members organise and place all your wonderful artworks in a tight schedule of 2 hours.

It is frantic but achievable, which leads to a lot of satisfaction when it all comes together.

Visitors frequent our gallery with paintings moving into loving homes.

We would like to encourage all PSCAC Members to take the brave step and give us a chance to exhibit your creative works of art.

**Marianne and Judy  
Coordinators**

## Pastels

The Pastel Group

The Pastel Group have been meeting on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. We have been developing our drawing skills as a basis for good art practice in all mediums, as well as working on still life's, outdoor scenes and our own references.

The next exhibition period will feature Pastel works in the Annex. All pastellists are welcome to exhibit even if you don't attend the group sessions.

**Christine Leaming**



## Embroidery Group

We have welcomed two new members, Beverley and Judy. They both have many unfinished projects that they wish to complete. We would welcome any new members to our group, just come along on Friday mornings.

**Penelope Highland**





# Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

## Monday Watercolour Painters

We welcome two new members to our group, Linda Groome and Farrah Megson, plus Libby, Keven, Donna and David who joined earlier in the year, we have a very keen group of painters attending every week.



Two of our girls, Genienne Patterson and Carol Brown belong to a group of watercolourists who started up at Fullerton Cove during the lockdown period and I was invited to hold a workshop last week at the The Cove over 55's village where eight members attended. We had a great day with an amazing lunch provided. Our subject for the day was clouds, we have also been exploring this subject on Monday afternoons, both



groups have had amazing results plus a lot of fun.

The Bay has had some amazing clouds of late and looked spectacular this week with the sailing regatta on, plenty of inspirational painting ideas. All are welcome to pop in on Monday afternoons to say hello.

Happy painting to all,

**Nada O'Loughlin-Yonge**

## Monday Morning Painters

Hi All from the Monday morning painters. It's great to report that numbers are returning to pre covid levels with attendees enjoying the company and painting together again. A few new potential members have attended indicating peoples' confidence is at last building. The latest exhibition, "*Exploring Faces and Spaces*" looks great with I believe some paintings being sold already. Attendees have been reminded to get weaving in preparation for the next exhibition on 21 April, "*What's on your plate*". Former member Heather Mead has moved into care and has generously sent in many frames and mats to the Centre for members use. Members send their thanks and best wishes Heather. Arrangements are progressing with well-known artists workshops at The Centre. This follows the success of previous workshops pre Covid. These are popular so members interested need to get their names on the noticeboard list early.

**Stafford,**  
**on behalf of the Monday Morning Painters.**



## Thursday Pottery Group

Exciting times at the Potters' Barn with the launch of the Great Pottery Throwdown.

The challenge, to create a ceramic bowl and ceramic fruit to fill it, in just 6 hours!

The results will be displayed in the gallery during June, with a people's choice deciding the winner.

Our collection of pottery for our first gas reduction firing is growing. This is a great project with plenty of potential for new techniques and glazes. We hope to get this underway, very soon.

Carole and her display team have once again created a fabulous display in the gallery. Keep up the good work, it's much appreciated.

**Dave Briskam**



## Monday PM Painters Group

Members as well as non members are always welcome to stroll by and say hello on a Monday afternoon in the PSCAC Westralia Room.

Our group encourages the exploration of new art forms through different mediums.

**Feature Artist:** Congratulations to Jeanette Robertson with her wonderful selection of paintings featured in the Gallery.

**Tomaree Library:** Members wishing to exhibit in the Library, please contact Judy Jones.

**The Monday pm painters are a talented and friendly group led by the ever-encouraging Marianne Newton. Our group includes members who actively contribute to our community through creating beautiful murals for community spaces to applying for grants to help our Centre and other community groups.**

**Of course we also paint! Each member has their own unique style from Bev and Bec's vibrant abstract to**

**Christine's fabulous realism.**

**If you would like to join us - you are very welcome.**

**Susan Kelly**



**Marianne Newton  
GROUP LEADER**

## Garden

I will be leaving the Bay and moving to the south coast Helen Love has taken over looking after the garden. I basically got the job 16 years ago by bending over and pulling weeds out as I walked up the path. I have had tremendous support from members who have taken over sections of the garden and I am sure will offer Helen that same support. Christmas Bush Garden Club members go up once a month and look after their section between the two paths and we appreciate their efforts. Thank you all and everyone makes a friend by gardening.

**Yvonne Hill**





## Welfare

You will all have noticed the absence of our dear friend and little green nymph, Yvonne from our Arts Centre who as we know has devoted many years to its development and friendship to all. We have to advise that due to health issues Yvonne has now gone to live with her sister. We are sure you will all join me to wish her all the very best.

Unfortunately we have had a very sad twelve months, losing a number of much loved and respected long standing members. They will be missed. Condolences have been sent to the families from the Centre.

Thank you

**Colleen Sessions**



## Fusion

The Fusion group has been monkeying around this month making sock monkeys, among other things. Some of us are still inspired by our visit to Upcycle Newcastle in Hamilton and are making denim coasters, tool belts, cushions and T-shirt creations. Look out for these coming soon to the Fusion room! This week Kathy from ATASDA (Australian Textile Artist and Surface Design Association) visited our group to check out what we're doing and tell us about several exhibitions they are preparing for later this year.



**The Saturday Stitchery Group has merged with the Knitting group.**



## Knitters Group

Our Knitters group has resumed. We have joined with the Saturday textile group and we meet every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 1pm until 3pm. We would love to see any new members.

**Helen Diemar**



## HEADSUP — Kay McFarlane-Smith Workshop

Accomplished artist and fellow member of PSCAC Kay McFarlane-Smith has generously agreed to run an oil painting workshop at the Centre on Saturday 8 August. The subject is to still be decided but will be either a land or seascape. A notice has been pinned to the board in the Westralia room and any members interested in attending can put their name and mobile (preferably) number on the list.

**Diana Atkinson**



## Artist Profile - Francine Inglis

I formally trained in Fashion Design, evening wear, millinery, tailoring, fine arts, home decor and printing, later progressing into the field of information technology and multimedia.

Retirement and relocating to Nelson Bay has enabled my love for crafts to expand. Inspiration is gained by attending art and craft conventions, workshops nationally and overseas, nature, watching YouTubes and many hours/days experimenting to perfect various techniques.

Admiring specially crafted cards at exhibitions sparked my curiosity and interest to start working with card stock, colour, applying texture and dimensions a flat surface to create multi-dimensional cards.

Having attended a Japanese Sashiko embroidery and Kumihimo beading workshops and learning the history behind these techniques, once again the curiosity to learn a new technique was born.



Mixing new ideas with old traditions to create a modern look.





# Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

## Gallery Manager

We will be holding our Spring Affair on Saturday 11 September, so it's time to begin the planning process.

We will hold a meeting on Tuesday 18 May at 9:30am in the Manoora room, to discuss the ways that all art centre groups can participate. This is an ideal opportunity for us to showcase what the centre offers to our local community. It is also an occasion where we can all meet socially, and see what other groups do here at our centre.

Previously we have had

- Demonstrations of arts and crafts
- Visitor participation activities
- Sausage sizzle
- Coffee and cakes
- Musical entertainment

Could all groups please discuss what they would like to be involved with, and ensure that your group has a representative at this meeting to contribute your ideas and suggestions.

Any new ideas will be most welcome! If you would like to participate, but can't get to the meeting, please email me at [Rnd2315@gmail.com](mailto:Rnd2315@gmail.com) with your thoughts.

**Discover NSW vouchers** can now be redeemed at our gallery. Here's your opportunity to use yours to buy that special something as a gift, or for yourself to enjoy!

Thank you to all who have kept the gallery running successfully in my absence.

**Di Adamson**



## Patchwork Groups

### THE QUILT SHOW 2021

The Quilt Show was a huge success with the number of quilts shown, and financially making \$4528.00 from the Bag Lotto, Shop and Raffles. Ten Quilts were sold which was a wonderful result for those ladies wanting to sell. Although the weather wasn't the best, we had great support from the local community with many visitors to the show, and a number of enquiries to join our groups.

- 21 Bags for Bag Lotto were made by members. Many thanks for these donations.
- Wendy Barwick won Viewer's Choice.
- Linda Brett won the Bag Lotto draw
- Francine Inglis won the Log Cabin draw

**Margaret and Wendy**



Linda Brett (far quilt) and Margaret Dwyer

## Plein Air

Wednesday Plein air painters. Still at Roy Wood Reserve!!!... Definitely one of the most beautiful places in the area. Due to the fact that Wednesdays seem to rain more often than other days we all have unfinished works. I guess one day we will move on but until then we are still finding interesting compositions here.

**Robyn Bailey**



## Tai Chi

Tai Chi . The group is enjoying all our forms especially the fan and undeniably the location is beautiful. Both classes are full at the moment but enquires are welcome and we can advise when we can start beginners again. Beryl and Robyn.

**Robyn Bailey**

