



PORT STEPHENS COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

NEWSLETTER

December 2021

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

In this issue:

- President's Report
- Changes to Covid Guidelines
- Christmas Closing
- Exhibition Team
- Bonsai Group
- Pastel Group
- Spinners and Weavers
- Christmas Display
- Treasurers Message
- Fusion Group
- Peoples' Choice
- Monday Watercolour Painters
- Saturday Painters
- Artist Profile - Pottery
- 2021 Business Award
- Gallery Manager
- Feature Artist
- Monday AM Painters
- What's On
- Paper Craft
- Mosaic Group

Gallery closing dates for Christmas are:

Friday 24 December Christmas Eve closes at 1pm

Saturday 25 December Christmas Day closed all day

Sunday 26 December Boxing Day closed all day

Friday 31 December New Year's Eve closes at 1pm

Saturday 1 January Closed all day

Sunday 2 January open till 1pm

Monday 3 January open as usual

From the President

Like many of you, I'm looking forward to the holidays and spending time with family. 2021 seems to have been way too long and a bit tedious. As one wit has put it: ***"I'll be staying up to see the New Year in, if only to be sure that this one goes!"***



great work we do here.

Sadly, our much-loved member and friend,

A recent bright spot was when the Arts Centre won The Port Stephens Examiner Business Award for Art, Craft and Gifts. It's lovely to get this recognition from our community for the talent of our members and the

Yvonne Hill, passed away in October, after a long illness. She loved being part of the Arts Centre community and showed her commitment in so many ways: serving on the board for a number of years, active as welfare officer giving support to sick members and their families, and supervising our handyman volunteers. But it's likely that her enduring legacy will be her work creating and maintaining our beautiful garden.

On 12 March, 2022, Yvonne's family are visiting the Bay and will come to the Arts Centre for morning tea/ lunch with us. This will give all of us the opportunity to celebrate Yvonne's life and her contribution to the Art Centre.

Thank you for your support during this difficult year.

Wishing all have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Carolyn

Changes to COVID guidelines

You would be aware that the State Government has relaxed some of the COVID restrictions, so we now don't need people to use the QR check in or show proof of COVID vaccination.

However, clubs and businesses have the right to exclude the unvaccinated and are doing so, knowing that the epidemic isn't over, the new variant is very infectious and we all still need to protect ourselves and others against illness. As of today, 15 December we will allow everyone to visit the gallery as long as they wear masks. These will be available at the front door.

Because Art Centre members voted to exclude unvaccinated members from group activities at the September General Meeting, we need to hold a Special General meeting so all members can reconsider that resolution, before allowing unvaccinated members to return to group activities. The Board members are aware this is a tough decision and that some people will be upset, but many people are worried about spending longer periods of time with unvaccinated members. In accordance with our Constitution, we must give members 21 days' notice of a Special General Meeting, so the meeting will be held on 1st February, 2022.



Exhibition Team

Our latest Exhibition changeover occurred on Wednesday featuring: **Gallery – Port Paradise**

Hall - What's On Your Plate

Thank you to our devoted Hanging Team in creating another wonderful display of our Member's Paintings. The Artworks are starting to move again with many visitors frequenting our Gallery now we are open again.

Congratulations to all PSCAC Members on the recent Port Stephens Annual Business Awards 1st Prize Arts and Crafts and Gifts in Port Stephens. The Trophy can be viewed at the Gallery Counter.

This award is the source of much pride.

Merry Christmas to All. See you in the New Year.

Marianne and Judy - Co-ordinators



Bonsai Group

Well another year has passed and again it was disrupted by Covid 19 but we all stayed well and look forward to a better 2022. The trees are relishing all the rain but would like a little sunshine as well. The Bonsai Group is having a Christmas Luncheon at "The Deck" restaurant Soldiers Point on 16 December which will be our last get together for 2021. We will resume normal classes on Wednesday, 5 January 2022. Wishing everyone a very **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

Happy Bonsaing!

Carol Rigby



Pastel Group

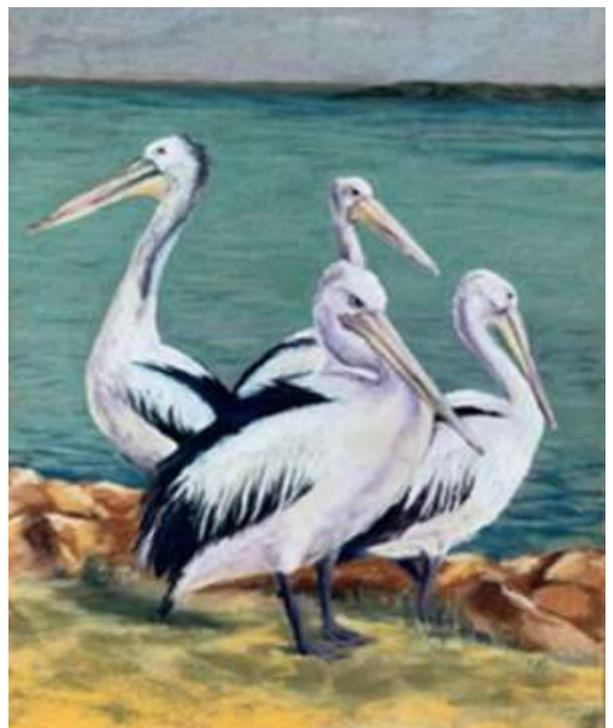
A small group has gathered every second Wednesday to enjoy working with the medium of Pastel.

We have continued to develop our skills through various exercises and demonstrations.

We meet every second and fourth Wednesdays from 10am with the first meeting for 2022 being 9 February.

Come and join us!

Christine Leaming



Spinners and Weavers

The Spinners & Weavers had a great end of year Christmas Lunch this week with good food, Christmas carols and a lot of noisy conversation. We raised our glasses to absent friends as we have lost three of our group this year, Pauline Campbell, Pam Smith and Gillian Barnes.

We spent some time discussing how we will use the Skills Enhancement funds and have decided to purchase more equipment. We are very fortunate to have this opportunity.

We also talked about a workshop schedule for next year with lots of great ideas put forward so it will be a very busy year.

The afghan rug from handspun knitted squares that we have all been working on is now ready to be assembled. Laying the squares out was very exciting as the individual efforts came together to create an amazing colourful rug. Once sewn together we will raffle it as part of our exhibition next year.

We wish everybody a very Merry Christmas and a safe and enjoyable 2022.

Melanie Delaney



Christmas Display and Raffle

Tickets are on sale for the wonderful Christmas prizes, with raffle drawn 22 December.



From the Treasurer

All members selling items in the Gallery are requested to check that the bank details they have given to Finance are correct and up to date. If your details are incorrect, you will not be paid.



Fusion Group

Fusion group finish the year on Wednesday 15 December and will return on the 12 January 2022. We are having a celebratory lunch on the 15 Dec. to end the year. We have been busy planning our new programme for the coming year. New members are always welcome, so come along and see what type of sewing we do!

Our group have a Fusion of ideas to share and a wealth of many different fabrics to sew. If you love to sew by hand or machine a variety of projects please come and join us in the New Year. We meet every Wednesday in the Manoora Room 10am to 12noon.

Sheila Francis.



The Peoples' Choice Award

The winner of the Peoples' Choice Award for the last Gallery exhibition goes to Cheryl Wong for **'Life is a Buzz'**. Congratulations Cheryl and enjoy your coffee and cake for two in the Garden Café, opening later in the New Year.

Desk Duty volunteers don't forget to remind our visitors to vote for their favourite item in the Gallery. It can be anything that is on display.

Melanie Delaney



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

Monday Watercolour Painters

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL and we are looking forward to a less disrupted NEW YEAR. Our group has remained strong all year, with lots of keen members turning up whenever we have been able to meet at centre. It has been great to see all gain new skills in the use of water colour. Like any medium it's all about the technique.

It will be lovely to see the new exhibition displayed in the gallery mid-December and then it will be time to think about our first Exhibition for 2022 **"Australiana"**.

The photo of Christmas bells is Monday Water-colourists first challenge for 2022. This Australian native wild flower grows locally, and is a lovely subject to paint in watercolour. I am



looking forward to seeing you all again mid-January.

Our group gathered for a very pleasant Christmas luncheon with 12 attending, lots of lovely food and fun had by all.

Our very best wishes to all at centre.

Nada O'Loughlin-Yonge



Saturday Painters Group



It seems no sooner than we came of lockdown and resumed with our bimonthly meetings than Christmas is nearly upon us.

Hope you are all able to celebrate the occasion with family and friends.

Don't forget that the last session for 2021 will be on Saturday 11 December.

Sessions will resume for 2022 on Saturday 8 January for those who have finished their Xmas celebrations.

It has been rewarding to see an increase in numbers attending these Saturday sessions. Let's hope it continues in 2022.

A "Fabulous Fake" Exhibition i.e., copying the OLD MASTERS, is planned for later in the new year. In preparation we are planning to have a session to introduce new and existing members of what this exercise involves. So please put this date in your diary, and if you wish to join us, put your name on the Flyer on the notice board. It should be a fun day.

Date: Saturday 12 February – start time 10am to 2pm.

"Creating a Fabulous Fake i.e., Copying an Old Master".

Presented by Nikki Waters and Nada Yonge

The Session includes: -

- Presentation of a selection of 24 works from previous Fab Fake exhibitions covering the popular and less known Old Masters
- Where to start, covering Legal Issues and deciding on the Old Master painting
- How to start, and what steps to take.
- Example of a work under development
- Any Questions

Further Sessions if required. All Artisans welcome *Don't forget our sessions are held monthly on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month starting at 9:30am.* I send a reminder for each session.

Any Mediums, and everyone welcome to join us. Assistance is available for new painters.

Nikki Waters

Email: nikkiwaters@westnet.com.au

Mobile: 0438 330 342

Artist Profile - Pottery, Pamela Riddell

Pamela had a natural talent for art from her early childhood, she drew on any piece of paper she found. Her career was in fashion design and travelling overseas gave her the opportunity to visit Art Galleries around the world. Pamela studied art with tutors, portrait artist, Dave Thomas (Archibald finalist) as well as landscape artist Rod Halloran, she also attended weekend workshops at "Art in Action" with Artists Warwick Fuller, Robert Wilson, Herman Pekal, John Wilson, Malcolm Beattie and Kasey Sealy among others.

Approaching retirement Pam and her husband decided to move to Port Stephens and together with artist Jenny Crozier and others formed Tilligerry Arts Group known as DAG!

Pamela has been interested in working with clay hand building and has been working with clay for many years and is finding the medium very relaxing and satisfying,



2021 Port Stephens Business Awards

Winners in the 26 categories of the 2021 Port Stephens Business Awards were visited by the A Beautiful Occasion team, on behalf of the Examiner, on Thursday with the news, a bouquet of flowers, chocolates and their trophy.

Proud moment for all our members being awarded Industry Winner, Arts Crafts & Gifts in the Port Stephens Examiner 2021 Business Awards. Congratulations to all.



Volunteers Grant

Port Stephens Community Arts Centre has been nominated by your Federal Member of Parliament, Meryl Swanson MP, member for Paterson, to apply for a grant of \$3500 under the 2021 Volunteer Grants opportunity. Thank You Meryl Swanson the funds are going towards our Skills Enhancement program for our volunteer members.

Members, please contact your group leader who has the details on how funds have been distributed amongst the groups. Workshop planning needs to be approved at the February 2022 Board meeting.

Meryl Miller

Spoonville

Toni Martin approached Meryl with the idea for our creative members to take part in the Global Spoonville initiative that developed during COVID Lockdowns. All the Spoonvilles around the world have been created as something fun, interactive and safe to do during the Covid-19 pandemic.

There are no rules for Spooony people and so Spoonville populations everywhere are growing and growing. Making a Spooony person is fun for all the family and a great activity to



keep children and grown-ups busy and it's lovely to see the smiles on the little ones faces when they visit a Spoonville near them!



Helen Love has kindly agreed to have the Spoonville display in the gardens of the arts centre. During the Christmas break if you would like to decorate a few wooden spoons to add to the display which we will set up

in the new year from 17 January. Any materials can be used to create your Spoon person. The only request is that the spoon should be sealed as it will be outside. Becoming a registered Spoonville sight will be good for publicity of the Arts Centre. Any questions should be directed to Meryl.

Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

Gallery Manager

Our gardens are looking fabulous, and our gallery spaces are too – thanks to all the willing volunteers who care for these areas.

Thanks also to everyone who stepped up as Covid Marshals, or took responsibility for checking entry details for all our members and visitors. Most people were very understanding whilst the government regulations were in place. Here's hoping that our diligence has paid off.



Marianne, Judy and I have put the finishing touches on our Exhibition Calendar for 2022, and it is now ready for circulation – keep an eye on your in-box for your copy. All members are always encouraged to submit artworks and free-



standing 3-Dimensional items for each display. If you're unsure how to go about this, please contact me.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy Christmas season.

What's On

NOW SHOWING: - *Port Paradise*, exploring the beauty of our bays, beaches, and sanctuaries.

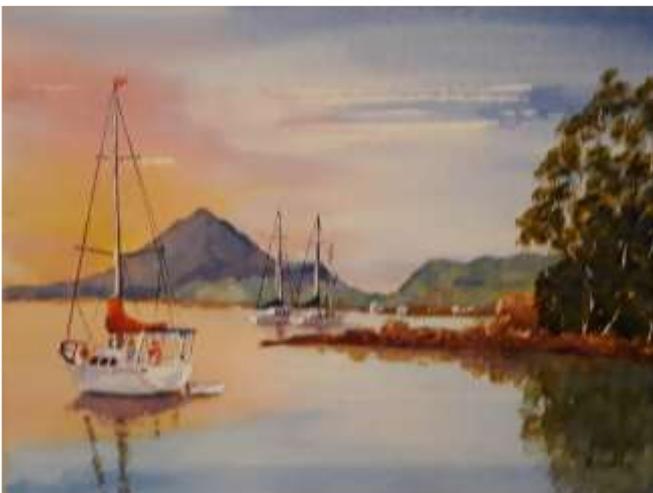
When the Christmas display comes down on 22 December, it will be followed by works produced by the Print Makers group.

COMING SOON: *Australiana* from 26 January to 8 March. Here we'll be displaying works that celebrate our natural environment.

Di Adamson

Featured Artist Roslyn Clarke

Roslyn loved playing with pencils and paper most of her youth and in high school took Art as a subject for her school Certificate. She passed with the highest marks for this subject.



At School Roslyn painted many backdrops for school plays. After marriage, three children and a full-time working mother. Art slipped into the background. Roslyn and her husband purchased a property in 1990 and she

was inspired by the countryside and picked up the paint brushes once again.

They moved back to Port Stephens in early 2005 and she promptly enrolled at the Tomaree Community Centre completing two terms with Elaine Jamieson and then two years with Modern Impressionist, Margaret Watson.

Roslyn became a member of Port Stephens Community Art Centre in 2007 and later joined the Society of Artists Newcastle. Over time she has attended many workshops with many artists and mediums, some being:

Oil: with Ros Psakis, Graham Cox, John Bradley and Kay McFarlane Smith

Acrylic: with Noeline Millar, Julie Simmons, Tricia Reust, Jean Buetell and Jean Spokes.

Watercolour: with Jean Spokes, Nada O'Loughlan Yonge, Julie Simmons, Earnst Hingston who also had Pen and Ink classes.

Pastel: with Gwendoline Lewis.

Roslyn continues to follow artists ie John Lovett and Jean Haines plus others.

Roslyn enjoys painting at the Arts Centre where there are always other painters who are only too happy and generous to share their knowledge.

Monday Morning Painters

Our numbers are slowly increasing, and we hope after Christmas we will have most of our painters back. We had a great Christmas lunch with all our groups together. It was nice to have people that we don't normally see all enjoying themselves. Covid rules will change once



again soon and we hope things will be easier. Wishing All a Very Merry Christmas and see you in the New Year.

Moira Coulson

What's Going On in the Arts Centre?

The Raffle of Christmas hampers will be drawn on Wednesday 22 December.

Upcoming Exhibitions include **Port Paradise**, exploring the beauty of our bays, beaches and bush from 15 December.

Printmakers exhibition from 23 December until 1 February.

From 26 January, our artists celebrate the natural environment with **Australiana**

The **Mosaic Group** will have an exhibition in the annex beginning 2 February.

As always, the minutes of the monthly Board of Management meeting are displayed on the noticeboard in the outer office.

Starting this month, the minutes of the bi-monthly Leaders meeting will also be displayed there for members' information.

The Gallery will be closed from 1pm on Christmas Eve and on Christmas and Boxing Days but thanks to some of our newer members, we'll be open on the Public Holidays, Monday 27 December and Tuesday 28 December. Similarly, we'll close at 1pm on New Years Eve and re-open on Sunday morning 2 January and on Monday 3 January.



Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

Paper Craft

Antonia Creese will be the new leader of Paper Craft as from January.

Her contact details are: mobile no: 0432 307 823
creese09@hotmail.com

Despite this being another disrupted year the Paper Craft Group has had a very positive and creative one. Early in the year we were privileged to have Helen Love present a most interesting workshop teaching us how to use alcohol inks in our work.

Several members of our group have conducted mini workshops which have added to our range of techniques and improved our skills and the general presentation of our cards. Thank you to all of these presenters.

Members from other art/craft groups are most welcome to visit us between 12.30-3.00pm on most Mondays in the Kanimbla Room to observe or participate in any of our Paper Craft sessions.

Members who submit cards for sale are requested to place them in the appropriately marked drawers below the main card display. As from January there will be four different display

people with Bev Ingham being the display contact person. All unsold Christmas cards will be placed in a clearly marked bag in the Cards for Special Occasion drawer for your



collection after 3.00pm Thursday afternoon, 23 December.

As I hand over the reins to our very capable Antonia Creese I would like to thank not only the very supportive Paper Craft Team but also the many members of the Arts Centre Community who have supported me during my time as leader of the Paper Craft Group. It has been a most rewarding time for me. I wish Antonia all the best as she works with this group of happy, dedicated and talented people.

Our group wishes all PSCAC members a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Creative New Year.

Helen McNamara

Mosaic Group

Mosaics. Our very happy group had our Christmas outing for lunch at the Golf Club. We are now in recession till January and are all working hard for our exhibition which will go up on 2nd February. We wish all members a very Happy Christmas and we hope a very different 2022. 🎄🎄🎄

Ruth Conley

