



PORT STEPHENS COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

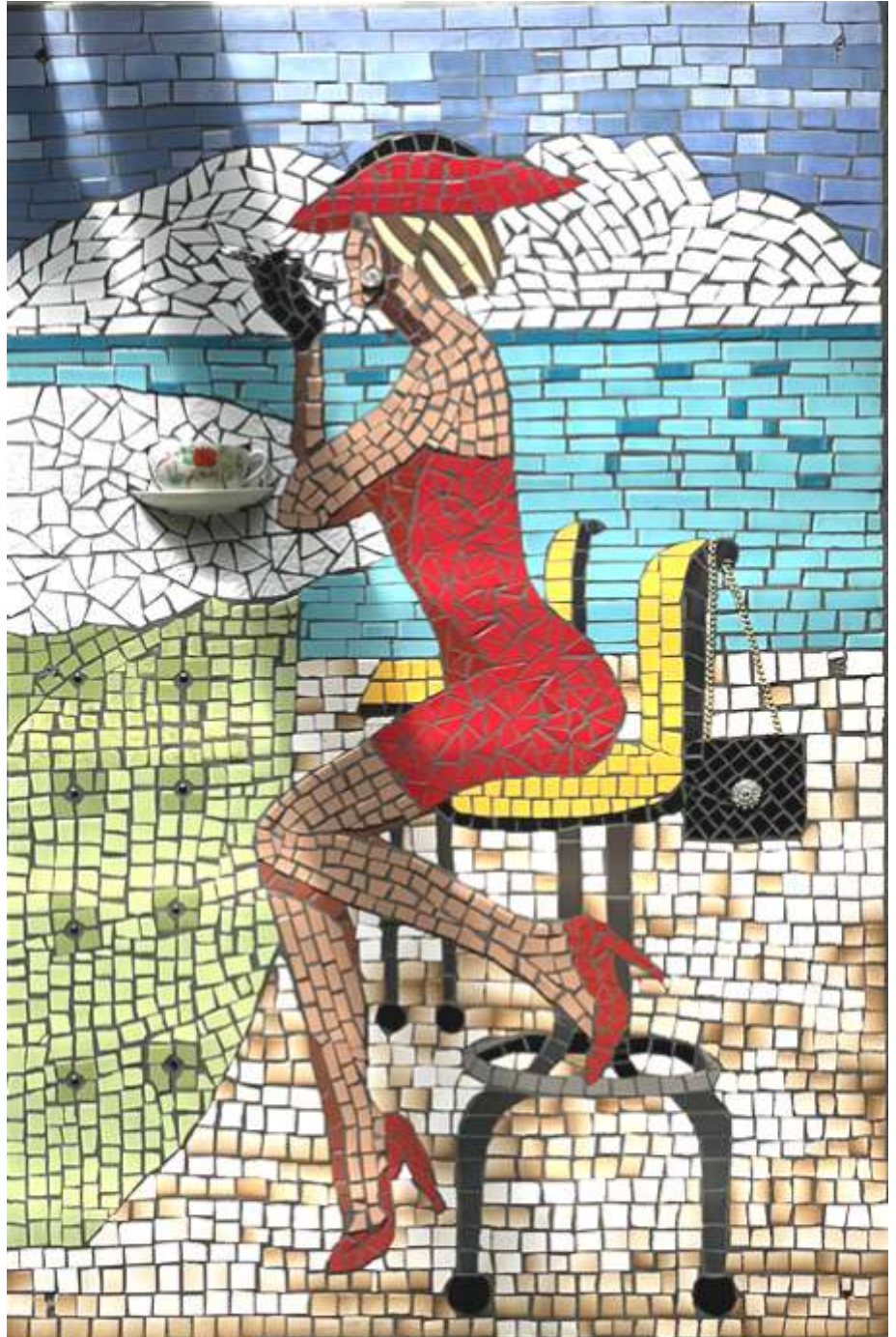
NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023

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

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Café Artworks

The second Mosaic work has been completed and hung in the Café. The project was created by Madeleine Quinlan, and Ruth Conley, Lorraine Goldsworthy, Margaret Brace and Kim Reilly worked on it during class and Mondays for the past couple of months. Kim stated that it was fun but hard work on some very hot days.

Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

From the President

The Highlight of the last two months has been how members have embraced the Art Prize. Entries from 78 of our members were received. There were 112 entries from Regional and National exhibitors.

Our Art Prize Committee worked well with all the planning for the big event. Assembling the exhibition was a true example of community synergy by our team of volunteers, who worked tirelessly for two days preparing for and executing the exhibition. There were 422 works received from 190 local, regional, and national artists.

Our members entering have made the exhibition spectacular. Thank You! Congratulations to the following members!

- **Michelle Fraaney** - 2nd in Miniatures entry - *Luxury*.
- **Milja Phillipson** - Highly Commended Mixed Media entry - *Altogether Now*
- **Ileana Clarke** - 1st Port Stephens Prize entry - *Night Walk*
- **Wendy Allen** - 2nd Port Stephens Prize entry - *After The Rains*
- **Jennifer Dobbie** - Highly Commended Port Stephens Prize entry - *Budgies*
- **Beverley Henry** - Encouragement Award for her entry in Port Stephens Prize entry - *Country Home*
- **Lesley Lewis** - 1st Textiles entry - *Textile Colour and Stitch in Kimberly Colours and Embellisher*
- **Penelope Highland** - 2nd Textiles entry – *Butterfly*
- **Antonia Creese** - Highly Commended Textiles entry – *Gynea Lily*

Of the 19 awards offered in the competition, our members have brought home nine.

Opening night was well attended with around 180 people filling the gallery, the buzz was contagious. Lets hope lots of entries sell, 21 have sold in the first two days.

"A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words".

Gallery Manager

I do hope that you've managed to pop in to see our Arts Centre during our 15th Art Prize exhibition. It took many, many hands working for countless hours to put this together. My thanks go to Meryl Miller and Marianne Newton, for their strong leadership, and to all the members who helped out in so many ways.

In April we will welcome the students from Tomaree High School, and St Philip's College – they will be exhibiting their work in the Annex. It is wonderful to be able to host this

Thank you all.

Below are the First Prize Winners in each Category.

Meryl

Painting - *It's Coming up a Storm* by Fiona Clark



Drawing - *Searching for Glow Worms* by Jill Cairns



Mixed Media - *Harbour* by Megan Barrass



Miniatures - *Sunset Supermarket* by Madeleine Szymanski



Textiles - *Textile Colour & Stitch in Kimberly Colours on an Embellisher* by Lesley Lewis



Port Stephens Prize - *Night Walk* by Ileana Clarke

display of work, and give them some encouragement with their talents. In the main gallery you can see art works with a theme of *Fantasy*, along with Bev Henry as Featured Artist, and Annette Buivydas and Maree Dohnt as Featured Potters.

I hope all creative knitters are working on beanies for our June Muster. These need to be as way-out as you are able to dream up . . . real eye-catchers! Please keep them at home for now; we don't have much storage space, so I'll let you know when to bring them in for display.

Di Adamson

Fusion Group

We have spent the past month working on vintage projects, using old doilies, laces, and other trims in creative ways. Our April challenge will be weaving with fabric and raffia. We'll be basing our work on techniques shown in an on-line tutorial we have purchased. You're welcome to pop in on Wednesday mornings to see what develops from this theme.

The Fusioneers

Di Adamson



Cafe

My sincere and heartfelt thank you to everyone who has helped and contributed to the running of the cafe during my term which has come to an end. I have enjoyed every minute of running the cafe and have made some beautiful friendships along the way with my volunteers and patrons. I would love it

to continue, but need two generous people to take it over. I will give all the help and advice required for a time to make the transition easy so please consider this, it's not a difficult job especially for more than one person.

Madeleine Quinlan

Are you interested in volunteering for Café duty?

The Café is popular with visitors and members alike.

However, if the café is to continue operating, we urgently need volunteers to manage and staff it.

To make things easier, as a Board we thought:

- Four Café Supervisors one for each weekend of the month rotating the 5th week between the 4 leaders
- Open both Saturday and Sunday
- Volunteers work 3 hour shifts 9am – 12pm, 11am – 2pm (to allow for overlap at the busiest time and allow for both shifts to be 3 hours)
- Reduce menu to Sandwiches, Scones, Tea / Coffee and increase prices so that the Café is profitable!

Please let us know: pscac.office@artscentrenelsonbay.org.au

What you think? Do you have any ideas of how the Café might operate?

Sue Kelly

Mosaics Group

A few changes this year with Mosaics. Our Team Leader, Ruth Conley retired after 17 years, and suggested that I take over from her (big shoes to fill). We thank Ruth for her continuous positive and helpful advice with both glass and tile mosaic work. A very knowledgeable and generous lady.

We have also been working on a Mosaic project during class, plus Mondays, for the past couple of months. It was unveiled on Friday 17 March, and is located on the back wall of the Cafe. I would like to thank the following people who were involved with the project, namely Madeleine Quinlan, Ruth Conley, Lorraine Goldsworthy, Margaret Brace and myself. It was fun but hard work on some very hot days.

A call out to anyone interested in Mosaics to contact me. Love teaching people this art and have vacancies in our group. We meet every second Wednesday at the Barn.

Wishing all a very happy and safe Easter.

Kim Reilly



Ruth Conley with Kim Reilly

People's Choice

Congratulations to **Eleanor Anson** the latest winner in the People's Choice award for this exhibition period, for her painting **'Through the Cracks'**.

Eleanor wins Coffee and Cake for two from our courtyard café.

Desk duty volunteers please don't forget to encourage our visitors to participate in the People's Choice Award - sometimes they see something they want to buy! They can vote for anything in the Gallery.

Exhibition Team

Marianne would like to give a special thank you to the supporting partners who are always obliging to help us out. Without their support our jobs would have trouble reaching completion.

Thank you from all of us at PSCAC.

Painters Exhibitions

By the time this Newsletter hits the press, we will be up and running with the Art Prize.

Thank you to all who have been very patient and extremely helpful throughout the preparation for our 15th Port Stephens Art Prize.

I would also like to introduce **'Irene'** who has just claimed her place in the café courtyard.

Irene is an amazing Mosaic with the tiles reflecting the light.

Thank you Kim, Mosaic group leader, along with the talent of Madelaine the designer, Ruth, Lorraine and Margaret for their knowledge of colour and shapes.

Without the teams' keen eyes, skill and attention to detail, Irene would not be as spectacular.

Congratulations Team!

New Exhibition - Monday 3 April to 16 May - **Fantasy**

The next Gallery Exhibition will be hung on Monday 3 April - 8 to 10am.

Please deliver to Painters Storeroom early on Monday morning. Two paintings per Artist.

Thank you to our team of helpers who make each Exhibition a pleasure to visit.

Marianne, Judy and Bev.



Spinners & Weavers

The Spinners & Weavers group have been finishing the afghan blanket that was commenced as a group activity almost a year ago. Each member has knitted several squares from their hand spun and often hand dyed stash, which we all have secreted away in cupboards. We all worked to the same criteria, namely hand spun, a shade of blue and six inch squares. The finishing touches are being put to the crocheted edge and the blanket will be available to raffle in May.



We have also booked our camp at The Retreat, Anna Bay for three days in May and we are having great fun planning a couple of workshops and what's for dinner!



Melanie Delaney

Monday PM Painters

What a busy time we have been having, preparing our paintings for the Art Prize. It is great to have the Art Prize on again and we are all looking forward to seeing the paintings displayed.

A big thank you to all that have helped me in the running of the Art Prize raffle and especially to Kay MacFarlane-Smith for the beautiful painting that is our raffle prize. I am attaching a couple of photos of paintings one of our group has done for the Art Prize, lovely works by one of our new members.



Nada O'Loughlin-Yonge

Bonsai Group

A few of the members had a trip to the Central Coast Bonsai Show and spent some time observing the trees from the Central Coast Bonsai Club. There were some interesting workshops to attend and our Liz won the raffle much to her delight. On the way home the group stopped at Bonsai World in Jilliby for some purchases of plants and pots.

On Saturday May 13, which is the Mothers' Day weekend, **Bunnings** have invited our group to give a bonsai demonstration at 10.00am in the Garden area, and Steve will once again show how it is done. Everyone is welcome to come and see just what can be achieved from a nursery plant.

Hopefully the hot weather will finish soon and the normal

Autumn temperatures will return and we will see the deciduous trees in all their colourful autumn tones.

Happy Bonsaing!



Carol Rigby

Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

Plein Air

Beautiful Boat Harbour. Wednesday mornings 9.30-12.30 all welcome why not try something different.

Life Drawing

A small group last week due to health, commitments, family etc. So Good Wishes to all.

Tai Chi

Our Christmas lunch enjoyed by all. Unfortunately we are not taking any new members yet but will let you know when that changes.

Robyn Bailey



Papercraft

The move upstairs to the Westralia room has been fantastic, some of our members are able to attend the group again because the access is easier and we are all enjoying the extra space, light and air flow!

Many of the group start with lunch in the café area at noon before getting started.

Antonia



Knitting Group

Our Knitting group meets each 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 1pm to 3pm and welcomes anyone of any standard.

Helen Diemar

Featured Potter

Dave Briskham

Dave enjoys making creative and functional pottery. His favourite areas of interest are glaze combinations and compositions, firing techniques and experimentation.



GARDEN NEWS

Hi to everyone and I hope you are starting to enjoy some cooler weather. I am sure the garden is! These white lilies in the picture are flowering at the moment. You will find them roadside behind the old fairy garden. I am not sure what they are called so if anyone does, can you let me know.

There is not a lot of news from our patch. Everything is going well outside and we are working hard to keep up with the vigorous growth of...everything! There are only four of us volunteers (Moira, Lee, Robyn and myself) plus Wayne so a big shout to anyone who is interested in joining our team, please call me on 0415646060 and I can allot you an area to tend.

Helen Love



Artists of the Month

Peter Erson Smith ASMA ARAS

Peter started oil painting in 1981 when working at Trangie on the Central Western Plains of NSW. Subject matter was limited at the time to local land and townscapes. Since that time, subject matter and media have expanded considerably, although his preference remains with oil and subjects that depict the ever-changing moods of the Australian sea/landscape. He has been a full time professional artist since 2000.

Peter studied art at Charles Sturt University and has also painted and studied with a number of highly acclaimed Australian and International artists.

During his career he has won numerous awards for his work with the most memorable being five times Grand Champion Art Exhibit at Queanbeyan Show, National

collections and private collections in Canada, United States, Ireland, Oman and China.

<https://www.peterersonsmith.com>



winner, Australian Artist Magazine Challenge 19 and a regular finalist in ANL/Mission to Seamen Maritime Exhibition.

He featured in the 2015 edition of the International Contemporary Artist, Gallery and Museum guide and has had several articles published in Australian Artist magazine and featured in Hunter Lifestyle Magazine.

Peter is an Exhibition member of the Australian Society of Marine Artists (ASMA), Associate of the Royal Art Society of NSW (ARAS) and member of the Newcastle Society of Artists and the Port Stephens Community Arts Centre.

Works are represented in Australian private, corporate and Department of Defence (Navy)



Having fun with Polymer Clay

We've been having a great time with Polymer Clay, making lots of interesting items as you can see below. It's also a time of conversations, fun and giggles.

We still meet on Wednesdays 12:30 – 3 pm in the Westralia Room.

Come along to one of our workshops and see if you like it. Polymer Clay workshops are held on each Wednesday. Cost is \$2 per session and Liz can advise you on the materials you will need to get started.

For further information please contact

Liz Opielinski on 0434925081



Working on a group project for a future Raffle at the Centre.



Pottery Groups

Our new glaze kiln is humming away, and some of the results can now be seen in the gallery. Thanks to all the hard working kiln folk- you know who you are!

Carole Driver



Monday AM Painting Group

Being a small group of happy painters does not diminish the enjoyment we have from painting with our friends and sharing new ideas and experiences. We welcome back our regulars who have been unable to join us for awhile also our happy vacationers whose stories bring fresh enthusiasm to all.

An enjoyable time was had by a group of our Arts Centre painters last Sunday when attending our local cinema to view "Mary Cassatt the Modern Woman" a film about the American Pioneer Impressionist Painter. The achievements

of this lady reinforce the fact that one must never lose the desire to learn.

Another exhibition not to miss is The Archibald Prize 2022 regional tour exhibition that will be held at the Lake Macquarie Arts Centre from 8 April - 21 May. Looks like another day out, can't wait.

Although first of all is our own Art Prize 2023 exhibition. Opening night on 24 March - 2 April and by all accounts it's going to be a wonderful exhibition.

Happy painting to all.

Robyn Killen



Embroidery Group

A few of us went to a Friendship Day organised by the Maitland Embroiderers Group in February. It was a very enjoyable morning getting to know like minded people from the wider area. There was a wonderful display of contemporary and traditional embroidery works giving our members some ideas for the future.

Penelope



Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

Thursday Patchwork

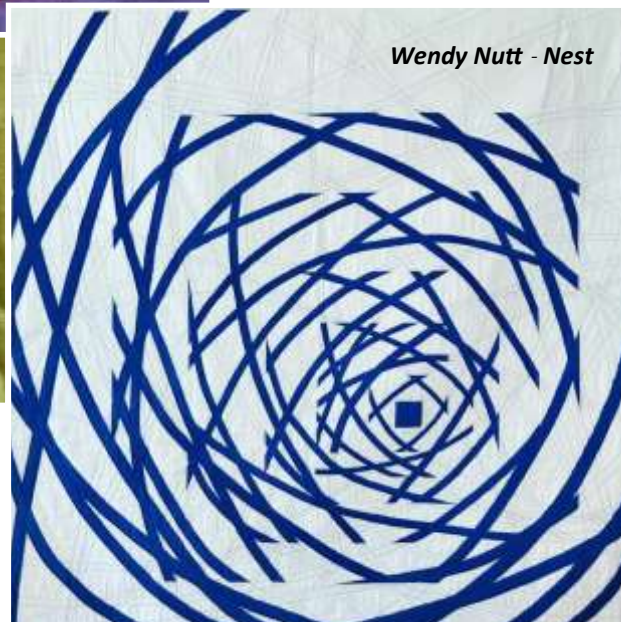
A 2-day workshop was held by Robyn Cuthbertson an award-winning Textile Artist from Melbourne. The group experimented with thread using free motion quilting on a miniature scale, enhancing with techniques used by Robyn Cuthbertson. The group thoroughly enjoyed the workshop which was something new to all who attended.



for the show. Wendy's quilt has a new home in Tennessee USA.

Sharon Turley

Congratulations to Wendy Nutt who sold her quilt 'Nest' at QuiltCon the largest modern quilt show of its kind held by the **The Modern Quilt Guild** in February at the Atlanta



Wendy Nutt - Nest



Convention Centre USA. The challenge was Log Cabin with over 2000 entries and only 400 chosen

Winners' 15th Port Stephens Art Prize

Category	Prize	Catalogue	Title	Winner Name	Sponsor
Drawing	1st	B308	Searching for Glow Worms	Jill Cairns	West Diggers Nelson Bay
Drawing	2nd	B325	Study for Scott	Tricia Reust	PSCAC Life Drawing Group
Minatures	1st	E634	Sunset Supermarket	Madeleine Szymanski	PSCAC Painters
Minatures	2nd	E632	Luxury	Michelle Frainey	PSCAC Painters
Minatures	HC	E605	Up the Ladder	Rene Brager	
Mixed Media	1st	C406	Harbour	Megan Barrass	Love Oil Collection
Mixed Media	2nd	C407	Coral Trout on the Reef	Lorna Bennett	Soldiers Point Bowling Club
Mixed Media	HC	C450	All Together Now	Milja Phillipson	
Painting	1st	A128	It's Coming up a Storm	Fiona Clark	K. Washington & M. Swanson
Painting	2nd	A113	Lighthouse	Megan Barrass	Port Stephens Council
Painting	HC	A146	Snoozing Under the Stars	Belinda Dorey	
Port Stephens Prize	1st	F714	Night Walk	Ileana Clarke	Port Stephens Council
Port Stephens Prize	2nd	F701	After The Rains	Wendy Allan	Port Stephens Council
Port Stephens Prize	HC	F720	Sea Life	William Dodds	
Port Stephens Prize	HC	F719	Budgies	Jennifer Dobbie	
Encouragement		F730	Country Home	Beverley Henry	PSCAC
Textiles	1st	D519	Textile Colour & Stitch in Kimberly Colours on an Embellisher	Lesley Lewis	PSCAC
Textiles	2nd	D517	Butterfly	Penelope Highland	PSCAC Fusion Group
Textiles	HC	D505	Gymea Lily	Antonia Creese	

Port Stephens Community Arts Centre Newsletter

15th Art Prize Presentation



This Column top to bottom:

Wendy Allen, Ileana Clarke, Lesley Lewis.

Middle Column top to bottom:

Antonia Creese, Jenny Dobbie, Beverley Henry.

Far Column top to bottom:

Megan Barrass, William Dodds, Penelope Highland, Lorna Bennett.