



## December 2015

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### COMING EVENTS AND DATE CLAIMERS

- ◆ **12th Dec - 30th Jan:**  
**UNDER SOUTHERN STARS - EXPLORING THE ABSTRACT** EXHIBITION by MAL KING @Irons & Craig Yamba
- ◆ **2nd January:**  
MacMarkets
- ◆ **Feb- Mar:**  
Art appreciation & History of Painting Classes, Yamba
- ◆ **25th February :**  
Bus trip to Coffs Harbour & Woolgoolga
- ◆ **May to July:**  
"Landscapes of the Lower Clarence" at the Grafton Regional Gallery

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Alison Merrin

# ARTY FACTS

Newsletter of the Lower Clarence Arts and Crafts Association,  
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### Presidents report

Friday was another eventful occasion for LCACA, with our Phyllis Austin presentation and our Christmas lunch at the home of Malcolm King and Julie McKenzie in Maclean. Many thanks to Julie for her work in arranging the Phyllis Austin competition this year. The standards are again very high, and the number of entries has increased. Thank you to each Member who entered. Taken together we have a wonderful showcase of what our members do, and do well. Very impressive.

This is an opportunity to thank everyone for their commitment to LCACA this year, big or small. I hope you are enjoying your participation. It is sometimes hard work, but I comfort myself that we are working together to create a stronger future for arts and crafts in the Region.

I think we are getting somewhere, too. There is a buzz in the air.

Council has announced its grant to us of \$2500 for the Exhibition in July 2016. This is less than we asked for. It is a little disappointing, given our increased costs in moving to the Showground in Maclean. They tell us it is because we are not attracting enough overnight visitors. We think it is because our data collection for the past few years has not been as good as it could have been. So we will be paying close attention to this aspect next year. We may also have to increase entry fees for visitors to the Exhibition to help cover our costs.

Now we have a new name for it too. **The Clarence River Arts Festival (CRAF)**. It has a matching - sinuous- logo designed for us by Malcolm King with help from Louise Gumb, and agreed by the Exhibition Committee. Brian Ferrie of the Show Society is again opening up the Showgrounds for the Committee on 12 January so we can again look at what is there and how we can organise it.

During the month we also obtained approval from the CVC heritage officer for amended plans to upgrade the Old Tea Rooms at the Showground, and are now awaiting a final decision on matching funding from Luke Hartsuyker, our local Federal Member.

2016 will be a big year as we celebrate our Jubilee Year as an Association. We are already gearing up for the Maclean MacMarkets in January, our bus trip to Coffs Harbour in February, the Art History and Appreciation classes in February/ March, the **8x8 "my place"** competition in April, the curated **Landscapes of the Lower Clarence** exhibition at the Grafton Regional Gallery from end April, and our April morning tea to celebrate the work of our veteran members over the years. Of course we will be grateful for any new offers of assistance with our various 2016 celebrations.

Meanwhile, I wish each of you a happy and peaceful Christmas. May 2016 be a wonderful year for all our Members, rich in friendship and the joys of creation.

Jenny Thomas

*Best wishes and Get well soon to June Alexander who is poorly*

### **Creative Needlework**

No report this month but just to say that everyone has been busy, we managed to fit in a Christmas celebration at the café too.

The embroiderers are now finished for the year. Back again in Feb 2016.

Merry Christmas to you all

Pam LeCouteur

### **Maclean Spinners and Weavers**

Our new member has been attending for the last two weeks learning how to spin and is doing very well.

We bring show and tell articles finished or in progress, sharing ideas and techniques.

We'll break for this year on 16th December and resume on 13th January.

Merry Christmas to All.

Nita

### **Patchwork & Quilting**

We had a very successful Boro workshop on 17th November with Jane McDonald from Be Be Bold who specialises in Japanese fabrics and quilting techniques. 21 ladies produced some stunning purses and wall hangings. Boro is a traditional form of Japanese patching.

On 24th November we had a visit to our group from Christine Book, well known quilter and author. She is a very interesting lady and displayed and explained a number of her works, which included a lot of embroidered and quilted Christmas decorations. She has kindly donated copies of her 4 books and 2 leaflets to our library. She also had copies of her books for sale at special prices for members of our group. It was a very enjoyable and inspiring morning.

On 1st November we held our Christmas party at the Clarence hotel. Our Christmas challenge for this year was a folding shopping bag. The challenge was won by Heather Eggins and runner up was Maxine Davidson. We had a great variety of lovely creations.

We are now working on the raffle quilt for next year's exhibition.

Our last meeting for this year is Tuesday 15th December and we will resume meetings on 12th January 2016.

Merry Christmas

Claudette Hough                      President

### **ClayWorx**

This last month clay workers have been very productive making extraordinary pieces and we are looking forward to see how they come out of the kiln.

This year has been a year of travel for the Clayworx group. As one person returns from a holiday another leaves to go on one.

We welcomed Wendy Whitton into our group early in the year and she kindly shared her years of experience during her time with us. Wendy held an advanced tutorial on glazes, it was very informative and we hope to put what we have learned into practice. Sadly, Wendy is leaving us returning to Brisbane to be closer to family.

A big thank you goes out to Tina Best for her assistance making sure our precious creations stay in one piece, up right and don't blow up in the kiln and also for taking care of the Clayworx business side of things while Debbie Barnes has been away tripping around the globe.

Thank you Debbie Barnes for supplying pieces for sale at Ferry Park Gallery and for volunteering your time there every month.

We look forward to 2016 and welcoming new members into our fold.

Karen von Ahlefeldt

### **2016 Subscriptions due**

Your renewal forms are attached to this Arty Facts.

Remember you cannot vote at the AGM unless you are a financial member

### **Information sheet**

A laminated information sheet on 2016 events is available at the front counter for gallery volunteers. This should be useful to people on duty when enquiries are made regarding upcoming events. Please take time to read these when you are next on duty. We will update it as the year progresses.

### Phyllis Austin Award

Presently on display in the Studio are the Phyllis Austin entries. This year's winner is Rhondella Hyde. Congratulations, Rhondella, we are very pleased that your talent and hard work has been acknowledged in this way. Two of our wonderful jewellers were also highly commended by our judge, Peter Daly, for their creative and beautiful works - Bobbie Winger & Dennis Munday.

Please go and look at the exhibition and see the exciting, varied and spectacular works on display. After the awards we all enjoyed a magnificent Christmas lunch at Julie & Mal's place, Kingstudio, overlooking the river in Maclean. A big thank you to them for hosting this, a great time was had by all.

Next display: Exhibition by artist Brian Doherty

### Publicity Report

It has been rather disappointing response by the local papers to publish things I have sent this month. We had two important press releases regarding next year. The artist of the month was in *The Independent* only. We need to step up with views on facebook and the webpage. If you need anything added just send it to [info@ferrypark.org](mailto:info@ferrypark.org) and I will put in up for you.

Alison Merrin

### Art Group Report

June is ill and we wish her a speedy recovery. The Art Group has been struggling with the heat in the Old Tea Rooms these past 3 weeks, one day setting up some of the group under the carport on the western side to escape the sizzle. Last week we met at Pat Jenkins lovely new studio in her home in Maclean. No painting was done of course, though we did talk intermittently about framing and we admired Pat's work. It was the Xmas get together you have when you aren't having one. We are excited about next year, which is our Jubilee; and expect to make our contribution to the planned events in 2016. Happy Christmas to all LCACA members from the Art Group.

Jenny Thomas

### 8x8 Miniatures Competition

"My Place"

26th March to 26th April

Ferry Park Gallery, Maclean

An 8 x 8 inch (20 x 20 cm) stretch canvas will be provided on receipt of the \$8 entry fee (\$5 for youth) at Ferry Park Gallery, Maclean. This can be used to paint on, to draw on, to print on, to use as a frame, or as a window box. All mediums acceptable as long as it is on the 8 x 8 stretcher provided and stays within that size.

Prizes:

Open: 1st \$300, 2nd 200, 3rd \$100

Youth: (4- 7years) 1st \$30, 2nd \$20, 3rd \$10

(8-11years) 1st \$50, 2nd \$30, 3rd \$20

(12 - 16 years) 1st \$50, 2nd \$30, 3rd \$20

Entries close and all works to be received at Ferry Park Gallery on or before Friday 18th March 2015.

All works must be labelled with artist name and details. All works will have the title "My Place" however, a secondary title is allowed. ALL WORKS MUST BE FOR SALE WITH A MAXIMUM PRICE OF \$200 (except youth) (25% commission will be charged).



### Look up ↑ It's super logo

Above is the new branding for the Exhibition. It will be held at the Maclean Showground 8th to 10th July 2016 and we are very excited. Things are progressing well with the entry forms almost ready to be printed. We still need a **steward** for **Woodwork & Other Craft**. If you feel you want to join the enthusiastic team then why not come along to the next meeting on 20th Jan and see what it's all about - it's extremely rewarding and fun.

### Art Appreciation & History of Painting Classes

February to April 2016. Presented by artist Brian Doherty at Treelands Drive Community Centre, Yamba:

Art Appreciation Thurs. Feb. 4th to 25th  
1pm to 2pm or 4pm to 5pm. 4 weeks cost \$25  
LCACA member \$20

History of Painting Thurs. March 3rd to  
April 7th. 1pm to 2pm or 4pm to 5pm 6 weeks  
Cost \$35. LCACA member \$30.

Sign up for both classes \$45, LCACA member \$40  
Book and pay early at Ferry Park Gallery, Maclean

# Ferry Park Gallery

## **Gallery Coordinators' Report**

We have a delightful assortment of Christmas items in our Artist of the Month display. Thank you to those members who took part, sales are excellent.

Merry Christmas to everyone & a Happy New Year.

Sonia Stanton & Marcia Rutledge

## **Artist of the Month**

**December:** Christmas display—Looks great

**January:** Alanna Brockwell

## **Maclean, MacMarkets 2nd January**

### **\*\*\*\*\* Help needed \*\*\*\*\***

We are having a stall at the McMarkets on Saturday morning from 9am onwards, along with 3 other stalls with exhibiting members. This is where we can 'sell' the Lower Clarence Arts & Crafts Association and tell people about the groups within the LCACA. We need some volunteers to help staff our stall and talk to people about the groups & the gallery, even if you can give us just an hour that would be fantastic.

If you can help, even for a short time, please contact Alison on 0411 190 870

## **Bus trip to Coffs Harbour & Woolgoolga Galleries & picnic**

25th February - \$30 per head

There is a list in the office to add your name to.

These trips have been very popular in the past so we are hoping to take a larger bus this time.



## **Visitor numbers for November**

4553 (2014)      4301(2015)

## **Exhibitor Representatives' Report**

The Phyllis Austin Award has been very well supported with 24 entries this year. Congratulations to all the entrants. Many thanks to the judge Peter Daly, who did a very thorough job, appraising each work, before making his final decision. He has documented comments on the works, which are available to the entrants.

Just a reminder that the canvases and entry forms for the 8 x 8 competition are now available at the front desk at the Gallery. The theme this year is 'my place'. We look forward to a great response. Works are due in March 2016 so there is plenty of time to work on your piece.

The Christmas display looks great and the Gallery looks exciting for patrons to purchase gifts.

It is important, though, that those on duty replace sold stock. Many exhibitors have replacement stock in the storage area. If not, the artist could be contacted to let them know. As one exhibitor explained..." blank spaces, models and jewellery heads do not make for sales".

## **Season's Greetings**

Penny and Suz

## **Air conditioners**

The unit in the entry area of the gallery has been replaced and the others repaired, so now all the units are in working order.

**Please do not alter** the settings on the remotes as they are all set at 23c which is the lowest they should be.

All doors should be **closed** before you switch the units on.

***We would like to welcome new members Debrah Novak & Lorraine Kenny***

## **MEETING TIMES REMINDER**

The General meetings of the LCACA are held on the second Friday of each month, at 9.30 am. All Members are welcome to attend and indeed - to meet our constitutional obligations - should try to attend at least three meetings a year.

**Next Exhibition meeting Wed 20th January: General meeting: Friday 12th February:**