



ARTY FACTS

OCTOBER 2012

Newsletter of the Lower Clarence Arts and Crafts Association,
Ferry Park Gallery, Maclean NSW; PO Box 194, Maclean, 2463.

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James the Fisherman stained glass window
in Maclean Anglican church

In this issue

- ✓ Phyllis Austin Memorial Trophy looms
- ✓ How Penny's stained glass window was made
- ✓ Should the Gallery display change?

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Firstly, a great big welcome back to our Treasurer, **Marlene Sheehan**, who has been on a long holiday overseas. We missed you **Marlene!**

During the month Committee members met with **Jenny Massey**, from Clarence Valley Tourism. We discussed a new five year Letter of Agreement whereby they buy Membership from us in exchange for use of our kitchen and, by arrangement, our meeting room facilities. This arrangement is subject to ratification by her Board, but otherwise settles an issue that has been hanging around for a while.

There has been some concern that the Ferry Park complex is not being maintained as well as it should. The Committee has decided to seek a meeting with the other tenants of Ferry Park to agree on the matters that need to be addressed, some urgently, and we will then write a joint letter to Clarence Valley Council.

Elsewhere in Arty Facts is a discussion of issues that were raised in this Month's meeting regarding the arrangement of displays in the gallery, suggesting a separation of painting and fine arts generally from craft. We have two months to think about the issues before a special meeting at 5.30pm on 12 December. Please make a note in your diaries and get involved in discussions.

Allan King 66477080

COMING EVENTS AND DATE CLAIMERS

- 20 Oct Yamba Festival. See www.surfingthecoldstream.com.au
- 20 October DerivanArt Open Day see Office
- 27 Oct-3 Nov Jacaranda Art Exhibition and Youth Art Exhibition.
- 15 Nov Penny Stuart's Stained Glass Window Show and Tell, Ferry Park 10am.
- 19 Nov Entry applications Phyllis Austin
- 23 Nov Submission of entries (with artist statements) for Phyllis Austin Award.
- 29 Nov Deadline to submit items for Christmas display.
- 30 Nov Phyllis Austen Award Official Opening
- 2 Dec Simply Crafts market Yamba
- 12 Dec Meeting to discuss change of gallery display arrangements, 5.30pm.

CLASSES—see noticeboard for details.

- *Clayworx at Maclean, Weds 9.30-1pm, ph 66459053
- *Embroidery at Sew Excited, Maclean, Mons 1-4pm
- *Beading, Elissa Miller Workshop
- *Youth, Grafton Art Club, classes/workshops, Rhondella Hyde, 0431735215, Sept-Oct
- * Knitting, NSW Knitters Guild, lessons and company, ph 66477080

MEETING TIMES REMINDER

The Committee and General meetings of the LCACA are held on the second Friday of each month at 8.30 am and 10am respectively. All members are encouraged—nay, expected—to attend at least three meetings a year.

Craft Reports

Creative Needlework

Busy and Learning!

A big welcome back to **Marlene**, who will I am sure have lots of interesting stories for us.

Everyone is progressing well with their chosen "works."

Many Embroiderers and Patchworkers will be travelling to Brisbane by bus on 20 October for the Annual Craft and Quilt Fair. For most of us it will not only be a day of learning and picking up new ideas and products, but an opportunity to buy up the many and varied requirements needed to complete current and future projects.

On Tuesday 16 October I will begin classes in basic silk ribbon embroidery at Sew Excited in Maclean. There is one vacancy left. If anyone is interested, please contact me for details.

Pam LeCouteur66451766

Spinners and Weavers Weaving a Spinners' Exchange Web

Margaret Lynch has attended the Exchange display of scarves and other items at Wangaratta. She took many photos which we all enjoyed.

We have now all received our scarves back.

By the end of December it will be time to send off our wool for another Exchange, this time to Canberra.

Our Spinning day has been changed for the time being, to Fridays from 9.30- 12.30 because of the McFarlane Bridge closures.

Nita Barnsley 66453197

Patchworkers and Quilters

Visiting the Brisbane Crafts and Quilt Show

We have had two workshops regarding the raffle quilt. The outline design and the colour scheme have been decided. It is going to consist of twisted log cabin blocks in a range of colours from cream through orange to brown. It should look stunning when completed.

There has been a Mystery Challenge this month, which turned out to be a very useful bag.

Everyone is busy with their projects at meetings, with lots of show and tell going on, and some marvellously creative things to show.

Marcia and **Fay** went to Dorriggo to attend workshops there. The result of one, using shrinking fabric, was quite beautiful, producing many admiring comments from the group.

Sharon Davis has been busily organising a coach to Brisbane on Saturday 20th October to visit the Brisbane Crafts and Quilt Show at the Convention Centre. We have opened it up to other ladies in the area and at present there are 45 people booked to go.

Alison Merrin 0411190870

Creative Glass- an opportunity.

Penny Stuart has offered to share how she created the beautiful stained glass window, which represents James the Fisherman, for the Anglican Church. It will be an adjunct to her Artist of the Month display. Please come to Ferry Park on Thursday 15 November at 10 am.

Blacksmiths Report

About a dozen of the Clarence Valley Blacksmiths attended the Glenreagh Timber Festival on 28th July 2012. Most of the Blacksmiths worked alone, with their own hand-cranked forge blower, forge and anvil. However, there were a number of occasions where there was a need for a "Striker", that is an assistant to swing a heavy hammer, while the other blacksmith held the work in place on the anvil. Some of the blacksmiths had forged items for sale, such as pokers, and decorative items such as realistic looking steel snakes and flowers. Public attendance on the day seemed to be greater than last year, and older spectators would often comment on the days of their youth, when fathers and grandfathers would have used similar tools and techniques for shaping iron and steel. This "social" aspect of blacksmithing is common to find at public displays, and adds to the enjoyment of the older spectators. To assist fundraising for the Glenreagh Timber Festival Management Committee, the blacksmiths donated 2 cant hooks, a newly made bullock bell and some fire pokers for the auction on the day. These various items made a figure of \$380 towards funding for the Festival.

The Clarence Valley Blacksmiths have been operating for about two years and members are enthusiastic and proud of their skills.

Non-blacksmiths may not be aware that once the basic forge blower, forge and anvil have been acquired, blacksmiths mostly make their own tools from scrap iron and steel.

Ongoing costs are very low as they make their own charcoal from scrap timber, and acquire scrap iron and steel from a variety of sources at almost no cost. In the modern age, there is a huge selection of excellent scrap iron and steel available, and blacksmiths are good exponents of the modern concept of recycling of used materials.

Contact: EoinMcSwan 66422116.

The Green Room– Dishing out the Dough

The Green Room group has had up to twelve people participating. We meet fortnightly and are currently experimenting with salt dough. There was great pleasure taken in making all sorts of objects, which **Babs** subsequently fired in her oven over a five hour period. We have now painted them and they look great.

Some people will attach magnets to their creations as Christmas presents.

If any members would like to assist **Babs** at any time, they are very welcome and will find it an interesting and rewarding experience.

BabsWillsdon 66452639

Junior Art – Maclean High HSC Display

Currently the Junior Art space at Ferry Park Gallery is hosting the Maclean high school Year 12 Photography Class. As part of their HSC course, the students put together a photographic portfolio for assessment. Rarely are the students' work viewed by the public, so the opportunity to exhibit their work in a community gallery is a great way to finish their final year of secondary schooling. Teachers **Melissa Stanford** and **Nick Magasic** have taught the class for two years, helping the students explore and develop skills in digital photography, video art and computer graphics.

Our exhibit features work by **Andrew Angelo, April Shearman, Ruby Penman, Todd MacLennan, Shelby Marcus-Hogue, Annie Herron, Jessica Shugg, Samantha King and Caitlin.**

Please show your support for our talented local young people by visiting the exhibit during the month of October.

Kerrie Howland 66459088

ArtGroup- Visiting, talking, painting

Our visit to **Winifred Willmore** at her spacious property in Ashby was a wonder filled experience of beautiful garden and home, with much to excite the artistic spirit. We were delighted that Winifred invited us to return and share again.

First Art Tuesday we invited **Colleen Greenwood** to talk about her art space display suggestion at Ferry Park Gallery. A pleasant discussion ensued as to how this could be done and notes were taken by **Jenny Thomas**. We hope the proposal can be discussed with all interested LCACA members.

Our 'show and tell' had **Shirley Schofield** relating and showing us her work from a recent Art workshop run by Fay Boyd in Grafton. **Babs Willsdon** amazed us all with her new style, expressed in a wonderful original painting inspired from our outdoor art day at Chatsworth Island some time ago. **June** displayed her silk screen printing equipment and discussed the technique. As a result, we intend to organise a workshop in this medium next year.

Art Day at Treelands was the usual paint and patter experience which we all enjoy.

June Alexander 66462191

GALLERY DISPLAY -HAVE YOUR SAY

At this month's general meeting there was energetic discussion about the practicality and desirability of a proposal to create as a six month trial-a dedicated fine arts space at the end of the Gallery so that painting and photography in particular could be shown off to better advantage and more readily be sold, hung and removed. Fine art would also include original creative works in pottery, wood carving, sculpture, quilting, print and glass.

Some people felt strongly that the gallery was fine as it is. Others argued against the disruption and cost of a change, and were concerned that there may not be room at a craft end of the gallery for displaced work.

The decision taken was to ask the proposers to come back with a much more detailed proposition as to how specifically the change would look and proceed.

Meanwhile the membership is asked to inform itself of the issues, consider them and contribute their ideas. You can talk to people involved and/ or use the suggestion box. Finally, you are welcome to attend the special meeting to be held at the Gallery at 5.30pm 12 December to go through the proposal.

Gallery Coordinators' Report

Artist of the Month.

Come and see **Josie Priddle's** enchanting and diverse display of Australiana in October.

Please note there are still vacancies for Artist of the Month in 2013. Contact Marcia if you are interested.

The Gallery.

Lyn McGuire from TAFE has offered us display boxes and pottery wheels.

When on duty could Members be sure to replace sold items, or, if needed, adjust that display so there are no empty spaces there?

Oh, and please **don't** forget to switch that kettle off at the wall at the end of the day.

Marcia Rutledge 66452753

Sonia Stanton 66477364

Exhibitor Representatives' Report

Phyllis Austin award entries soon.

Entries and fees are due in on 19 November. Judges have been confirmed as **Pat Lindsay** from Iluka, who was a personal friend of **Phyllis'**, assisted by **Christina Jago** of Ulmarra and a panel of previous winners. This is a prestigious Award and we encourage all members to consider entering.

We would also like all our Exhibitors, but particularly artists, sculptors and printmakers, to participate in the current discussions about Gallery space and displays.

Exhibiting Members need to keep up their supplies of **back up stock** if you want your display to always look its best.

Our weekend rosters are in a parlous state. Without staff on these days we are at risk of having to close the Gallery, a terrible option. Please think about how you can help. We may have to roster some exhibitors to work weekend duties. We would appreciate it if non exhibiting members would consider becoming friends of the Gallery and volunteering. Affiliated groups might also consider how they could help out more.

Penny Stuart 66464340

Suz Monin 66451270

Surprise! Christmas is coming.

Exhibitors, if you want your geese to be getting fat, please have your items for sale in the Christmas Display to the Gallery before the last Thursday in November, 29th.

STOP PRESS

Ian Tiley, the former Mayor, has written to LCACA to commend the work we do, to offer continuing support, and to offer to continue to be our Patron although he is no longer on the Clarence Valley Council. The Committee was very pleased to agree to accept his offer.

Simply Crafts

Members are invited to participate in a Handmade Craft Market on 2 December at Raymond Laurie Sports Centre Yamba. Details in the Office.

Publicity Report

Finally we had Artist of the Month published in both *Coastal Views* and the *Clarence Valley Review*. I have been looking into the cost of having new flyers printed and now have some prices. We are considering sponsorship to assist with printing costs, including an approach to the Chamber of Commerce. The new Web Page is making good progress; the first draft looks very professional.

Alison Merrin 041190870

LCACA OFFICE BEARERS AND CONTACTS

<u>PRESIDENT</u>	ALLAN KING	66477080	<u>VICE PRESIDENTS</u>	IRENE NOWELL	66462448 and	PENNY STUART	66464340
<u>SECRETARY</u>	JOHN LECOUEUR	66451766	<u>ASST SECRETARY</u>	position vacant			
	<u>TREASURER</u>	MARLENE SHEEHAN	66452120				