

President's Letter



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello Members. Leaving London Heathrow last weekend the temperature was 20C and on arriving in Perth it was 40C. This gave Lyn and me a bit of a thermal shock, but it was great to be back to appreciate the city we live in.

I can see by reading all the emails, which were waiting to be opened on arriving home and calling in the office to be up dated by Penni that there has been plenty going on at CAG. Every thing is running smoothly and I'm loathed to say without my help. Exhibitions, sales of work, classes and our end of year dinner are all in hand. So a big thank you from me to Penni, Maggie Smith and Committee members for looking after CAG in my absence.

The new office layout and furniture make the office look more up market and has I'm sure made life easier for everybody. In addition we have introduced MYOB software to keep track of CAG's financial accounts and to look after all the details of CAG's activities such as membership, class enrolments and the availability of tutors. Using this system will do away with passing pieces of paper around the office and reduce the possibilities of errors creeping into our database.

In the UK and Paris Lyn encouraged me to visit all the art galleries, exhibitions and museums possible until I was completely saturated. Nevertheless I enjoyed seeing all the masterpieces and modern works of art and even picked up some ideas for CAG to think about, provided I can remember what they were.

By the way if you are not receiving CAG information by email please keep your eyes on the notice boards in the studios.

Lastly our end of year dinner will be in December and the meal will be as last year arranged through Ramon Comty, thanks Ramon.

David Bindley
CAG President

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Members' Exhibition

- Themes from Nature

Penni's Ponderings



Penni's Ponderings

Welcome to Penni's Ponderings for November. The end of year is neigh so that means Christmas Sale of Work is only 4 weeks away. Please put aside the 2nd, 3rd and 4th December for our busy bee.

The Laurie Cochrane "Plein Air" Course and "Wet, Bold and Free" course still have places for those budding artists who would like to try something different.

For next year I have started looking/booking people to visit CAG such as Jack van Bruchem's Portraiture- he will come 3 times next year in 4 week blocks to teach Portraiture. Tanya Peter's will come to do a 4 week block of Felting and Weaving. Julie Silverton has indicated she would like to come back to do a Pastel Workshop for us and the Pottery Ladies are working on enticing some interesting people to show new techniques in the pottery world. To register your interest please call the office. Dates will be published in the December Newsletter

Further dates to put into your calendar is a Display Of Works/Sale at Stockland Sopping Centre the last week in January. The dates being Monday 25, Wednesday 27, Thursday 28, Friday 29 and Saturday 30 January 2010.

If you see something that you feel we should do at CAG please let me know. Till next month

TTFN

Penni

Thank you



This Newsletter is kindly printed by the Office of Dr. Dennis Jensen, MP.

Federal Member for Tangney



Photo: Margaret Drummond

CAG Sale at Southlands Shopping Centre - October 2009

Shop Spot & Gallery News

Hello Members,

The Pavilion Painters are a group of our members who paint together every week. The paintings they hung in our Gallery (16th to 20th Oct) was a real credit to their creativity. Maggie Smith is one of those members who is also our "Artist of the Month" until the end of Nov. Come and have a look at her lovely paintings and sewing creations.

Artist of the Month

Maggie Smith

works on display now

The remainder of the Gallery will feature members work "Themes from Nature" (from 2nd - 27th Nov).

My thanks to Margaret Drummond and her team for the time and effort they have spent each month displaying and dismantling the members work.

This year I think the Gallery has been much more interesting with a "theme" that is changed each month. Keep up the good work.

We would like all members to tell family and friends - email, phone, etc. about our CHRISTMAS S.O.W. Flyers will be available in the office if you want to letterbox drop them. All members that get an electronic newsletter will also get a copy of our Christmas S.O.W. flyer. If possible we would like them to forward this on to any of your internet contacts you think would be interested.

Keep creating - with our Christmas Sale of Work in mind.

Irene Perry
Shop Treasurer

Potter's Hobby Day *All members welcome*

Hope to see all members on tuesday down at the Art Centre .

On Tuesday the 10th there will be a Raku and Pit Firing at the Art centre there will be a cost for materials . Please put your name on the list in the pottery room so we will know how much glaze we need to make. Get busy making your pots.

Look on the notice board for pottery workshops coming up.

Hope to see all members working towards the xmas sale which is only weeks away.

There is a Exhibition "LUMINANCE" which I am in with Clayfeet. It will be opened by Digbey De Bruin on Fri 13th Nov at 6-30.

Exhibition runs from the
14th Nov to the 20th Dec
Tues-Fri 10am -3pm
Sat-Sun 11am-3pm

Hope to see all members.

Cheers for now Jill



EVENING DEMONSTRATION 5

(Photo 1) Trudi began by telling us something of her history as a potter and textile artist and her role in helping to establish the Canning Arts Group (*originally the Rossmoyne art group*).

She also told us that a medical problem that she had a few years ago means that she now concentrates on fibre arts rather than ceramics. She had decided she wouldn't actually demonstrate shibori and the extraction of dyes from plants but would instead explain her techniques and show us numerous samples of works which had been created using shibori techniques and the natural dyes extracted from mainly Australian plants (*which have the advantage of generally not requiring mordants to set the dyes.*)

(Photo 2) Trudi tends to use wool and silk for much of her work. Early in her presentation she showed us a jacket created for the Kings Park Festival which is knitted with wool dyed using natural dyes extracted from all the eucalypt trees on her property in Bedforddale.

(Photo 3) Another knitted jacket (*called a Bog Jacket because it is based on a jacket found on an ancient skeleton found in a bog in Sweden*) showed the effects of boiling fibres with natural dyes for different lengths of time. The light colour resulted from a half an hour of simmering, the mid tones from $\frac{3}{4}$ hour and the darker colours from a longer boiling time. The simple pattern and method of knitting this jacket enabled it to be worn in several ways including upside down and inside out (*as shown by the ways in which Trudi and Erica are modelling the garment in Photos 4 - 5*)

Trudi showed us many examples of fabric and garments made using silk and fine woven wool. These had been patterned using Shibori techniques of folding the fabric, tacking (*what Trudi called "dolphin stitching"*) and/or stitching, prior to placing the items in the dyes. (*For examples of a few of these see photos 6 - 9*) Many of the dyes used for these had been extracted from Eucalypts or Australian fungi. However the colours of the fabrics in photo 9 resulted from the Indigo plant which she mainly obtains from places like Japan and

Trudi Pollard
Fibre Artist

Indonesia (*although she is also starting to use Australian indigo plants*). The different colours of the Indigo dyes vary according to boiling times and source area of the plants.

(Photo 10) Steaming can be used to not only extract dyes from plants and colour the fabric, but also to pattern the fabric. Photo 10 shows what happened when leaves, bark and other parts of a plant are wrapped in a fabric, placed on top of an upside down bowl in a saucepan and steamed. The imprint of the bark, leaves, etc. can clearly be seen.

(Photo 11) If silk fabric which has been shiboried (*folded and stitched*) is placed in a vessel which enables steaming under pressure a permanently pleated silk organza fabric is produced.

Photos 12 to 15 show examples of works (*wall hangings*) inspired by her travels in different locations. She collected plants in these locations and extracted dyes which were used to colour a variety of fabrics which were then cut and assembled using stitching and / or gluing to create interesting patchwork or collaged works. Photos 12 & 13 shows her hanging of Dingo Flat Rd near Walpole; Photo 14 represents Caves Road in the Margaret River area and Photo 15 shows her Cervantes region wall hanging.

Trudi also spoke a bit about the application of Shibori techniques and the use of natural dyes in painting and in ceramics and glass arts. Once the dye has been extracted from plants the liquid can be reduced to form a thicker, more concentrated liquid which can be used to paint with or added to ceramic glazes. Paper can be folded to form patterns, coloured with the dye and used as the background for a painting or it can be used to create patterns in glass or on pottery.



DEMONSTRATION 5

Trudi Pollard : Fibre Artist

See report in page 4 for details



The lucky winner of the Door Prize, an interesting piece of fabric which was kindly donated by Trudi, was Glenice Jessup.



LUMINANCE

Showcasing new ceramic works by Clay Feet exhibiting group:
Jillian Archibald, Elaine Bradley, Sheryl Chant, Alyson Hayes,
Veronica McGrath, Gill Treichel and Andrea Vinkovic.

To be opened by Manager,
Art Portfolio Creative Industries, Central TAFE
Digby de Bruin
Friday, 13 November 2009 at 6.30pm.

Doors open at 6.00pm.
Exhibition runs from 14 November to 20 December 2009.
RSVP by Friday, 6 November 2009 to haylie.clark@melville.wa.gov.au
or phone 9364 5666.

Heathcote Museum & Gallery • Heathcote Cultural Centre • Swan House • Duncraig Rd,
Applecross
Gallery hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am - 3pm • Sat & Sun 11am - 3pm • T: 9364 5666

of interest...

Raku and Pit Firing
at the CAG on
10th Nov Hobby Day.
Cost payable for materials.
Please put your name
on the list in the pottery room

CAG Expression of Interest

Canvas Stretching Course

The Canvas Stretching course is one that we can run when we have enough interested people.

So if this sounds like something you would like to try then please call the office and leave your details. They are also offered on Monday Evenings, Tuesday Mornings and Saturday Afternoons.

CAG Expression of Interest

Picture Framing Course

The Picture Framing course runs for 4 weeks on **Monday Evenings, Tuesday Mornings or Saturday Afternoons**, depending on numbers. Each week looks at a different aspect and teaches the skills for this. If you are a beginner please enrol for the full 4 weeks. For those who have completed the course, we are offering refresher days. If you need to revisit the **"Matting, moulding calculations and selection"** please enrol for **week 3**. If you would like to revisit the **"V Nailer"**, please enrol for **week 4**.

We are offering two types of Picture Framing Courses, with matting & glass or without matting for oils and acrylic works.

The office will take names of interested persons and once we have the min number required, the course will run.



canning arts group

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From the vice president

Over a recent weekend, the Fibre Art Expo 2009 was held by the City of Melville at the Melville Civic Centre. For anyone interested in any of the facets of art using various forms of fibre as a medium it was a fascinating experience. There were beautiful displays of nuno felting, printing on both paper and fabric, traditional and contemporary embroidery, wearable art, silk string making, creative bookbinding, hand-made paper, and more.

There were talks and workshops to stimulate the creative genes: Shibori, making a chenille-like fabric, printmaking and book-binding. CAG life member Alcira Valsecchi had a beautiful display of hand-made paper and paper products and also ran a workshop. Her work entitled Homage to Imadate is part of the City of Melville Art Collection. Perhaps we could persuade her to come along to CAG and show us some of her talents!



There was also a striking display by the Uthando Doll Project, which is a world-wide grass roots movement of people who make, by hand, dolls for the expressive play which suits the culture of the children of KwaZulu-Natal. These are children who have suffered the effects of HIV/AIDS either directly or through caring for their sick parents or siblings. The dolls (and also toys) can be made of fabric or knitted or crocheted from wool. There are basic patterns but the dressing of the dolls is up to the maker, so there's lots of room to express creativity. If you are interested in doing something creative which will also help children, why not have a look at their website

www.uthandoproject.org, where there's heaps of information and suggestions. The project is managed by Georgia Efford, the Coordinator of the project, who lives in Perth. Alternatively please contact Maggie Smith for any patterns.



Uthando Doll Project

And, last but not least, there was the Mad as a Hatter Display featuring crazy creations of headwear - just the place to pick up some tips for Melbourne Cup Day!

DATES for your Diary

CAG Committee Meeting

Monday 9th
November 2009

All members
Welcome

Member's Exhibition

Themes from
Nature

2nd - 27th
November

Members' Sale of Work

Annual Christmas
Sale of Work

December
2009

CAG Busy Bee

2nd, 3rd and 4th
December