

ArtSpace GALLERY

Newsletter # 26

December 2017

NEWS

The Summer season has started with a wonderful exhibition from our local artists. Pop in and check out some beautiful work from our regulars, as well as some newer artists. There are some exciting exhibitions coming next year, including Meg Viney's "Sipapu", and Filippa Buttitta's show focused on the legendary Wonthaggi Monster.

INSTAGRAM HAS ARRIVED FOR ARTSPACE

As part of a new direction in promoting art, artists, and the Bass Coast region, we also have a new Instagram page. I would encourage you to check in with the page and see what's happening at ArtSpace and with arts in the region. Look for artspacewonthaggi on Instagram to keep up with the latest.

Instagram is a great tool to get artists' work out there and seen by a wider community, and is a fantastic way to sell your art as well. If artists would like their work showcased on Instagram, let Marny Javornik know and she will post it for you.

(artspacenewsletters@gmail.com)

A FOND FAREWELL ...

Sadly, we bid Jill Muir a fond farewell from Wonthaggi ArtSpace and Information after 20 years of outstanding community work. Jill will be very sadly missed. She knows her community and the region so well and has been a prominent face at the Information Centre and Mitchell House for many years. We all wish Jill all the very best in her retirement, and hope she gets bored sometimes so she will pop in for a coffee and a chat.



ArtSpace Gallery Wonthaggi 1 Bent Street Wonthaggi Vic 3995

T 03 5672 5767 E artspacenquiries@gmail.com W artspacewonthaggi.com.au

Exhibitions & Events



Meg Viney – “Sipapu”

16th January 2018 to 19th February 2018

Opening Sunday 28th Jan 2018, 2-4pm.

Definition of sipapu. plural -s. : a hole in the floor of a Pueblo Indian kiva symbolising the place where the mythical tribal ancestors first emerged from the primordial underworld regions into the

earthly realm.

Meg Viney is influenced by Native American Culture after living and working in North America for fifteen years. She has returned to Australia with a deep understanding of spiritualism, especially that of tribal cultures. For the native Americans particularly, the secular, the sacred and an affinity for nature are all interlinked.

Filippa Buttitta – The Wonthaggi Monster, 26th February to 26th March 2018.

Opening Sunday 25th Feb 2018, 2-4pm.

ON DECEMBER 1, 1955, the frenzy over 'The Wonthaggi Monster' mystery began, and it was on that day that Tom Gannon, editor of the Powlett Express, began writing ongoing articles about claims of sightings of a strange animal by those living or passing through the area surrounding Wonthaggi.



Gannon continued to be inundated with information about sightings. Usually, it was people seeing it cross a road in an uninhabited section along the coast. Many sightings occurred near Bass/Grantville area. There have been over 106 newspaper articles written about the 'Wonthaggi Monster' as a result.

This exhibition attempts to visually re-imagine the stories of sightings and the ways these become cemented as part of Australian folklore, myths and legends over time. Many are still circulating amongst the locals of Wonthaggi. The 'Wonthaggi Monster' is an intriguing example of the ongoing mysteries found in the Australian bush and its stories have inspired this collection of works.

Coming Next Year To ArtSpace ...

Creative Gippsland

8th May to 18th June 2018

Winter Solstice

19th June to 23rd July 2018

Haemochromatosis Awareness Exhibition – Ellen Hubble & Karen Barber

24th July to 3rd September 2018

Arts-Print

4th September to 15th October 2018

A Message From Our President

Dear All,

It has been an incredibly busy first year for ArtSpace at The Wonthaggi Centennial Centre and I would like to thank our committee, ABIA partners, artists and volunteers for being the most wonderfully helpful and supportive team that have made the transition from McBride to Bent Street a great success. Our boardroom bookings and our sales are steadily improving and our visitor numbers are around 9800.

Congratulations to Karin Ellis, one of our much-loved artists and curators, for winning the first YAC (Your Art Collection) Award for the year at the ASPI (Art Society of Phillip Island) the Cup Exhibition at Cowes. Karin is also the profiled artist in the summer edition of The Coast.

We have had the Sculpture Park Committee, a subcommittee of ArtSpace working hard to establish an International Sculpture Park in Wonthaggi and working collaboratively with Rotary and BCSC with exciting developments in the year ahead.

Our Arts Calendar is full for 2018 and the new year will be starting with two amazing exhibitions. First will be Meg Viney's 'Sipapu' Exhibition followed by Filippa Buttitta's 'The Wonthaggi Monster' Exhibition. There will be an Inaugural Photographic Exhibition, Groundswell's ClimArt Exhibition in May, A Winter Solstice Exhibition, Ellen Hubble and Karen Barber's exhibition on Haemochromatosis Awareness, and then another stunning ArtsPrint Exhibition. Finally, there will be an exhibition showing the three selected Marquette's of Sculptures that will be judged and announced at the gallery with the winner being the Inaugural Sculpture for the Sculpture Park towards the end of another exciting year at ArtSpace!

And on behalf of the ArtSpace Committee,

Wishing you all a Christmas and Holiday Season filled with happiness and peace.

Best Wishes

Ursula Theinert

ArtSpace Gallery Strategic Plan (2017-2020)

ArtSpace Committee has worked diligently over several weeks to develop our new Strategic Plan (2017-2020) You can click on the link below to see the full Strategic Plan on our website. Below is just a brief overview for you.

ArtSpace Gallery is an incorporated, profit for purpose, community arts and craft gallery. It provides rentable gallery space for display and sale of various high-quality arts and crafts items. Commission is payable on sales, which is discounted for those artists who undertake a prescribed number of hours voluntary work in the gallery per block.

ArtSpace wishes to extend its appeal to the broader community by encouraging involvement of local residents, including young people; Local Government; business and industry; community organisations, and visitors to the region, through major and minor initiatives, events and functions.

Central to the infrastructure redevelopment is the integration of the International sculpture park into the arts precinct.

Strategic Objectives

- Establish a world's best practice sculpture park in collaboration with BCSC, Wonthaggi Rotary and Rotary International
- Increase participation of young people in ArtSpace events
- Increase community appreciation of and engagement with The Arts
- Increase connections and collaboration with other art organisations
- Increase the profile of ArtSpace towards collaboration in the development of a regional gallery in Wonthaggi
- Positively contribute to the visitor economy of the Region
- Ensure ArtSpace has a sound financial foundation to underpin continued operations
- Consolidate and strengthen ABIA partnership

Link to the full plan on the ArtSpace website: [here](#).

**Festive
Exhibition**

Nov 24 - Jan 5
Opening
Nov 26 @ 2pm

All works can be taken when purchased



meeniyan art gallery

84 Whitelaw Street, Meeniyan, Victoria
Open 10 - 4 (closed Tuesday)
Ph: 5664 0101
www.meeniyanartgallery.com.au

Featured Artists:

Chris Larsen	Sharyn Madder
Helen Masin	Peter Walker
Deb Watson	Sian Adnam
Sam Haycroft	Patricia Hill
Sharon Lagden	Susan Williams
Sue Hoare	Judi Deitz
Jenny Mountford	Madeline Kelsey
Allison Svoboda	Warren Nichols
Bob Hickman	Pauline Farries
Karin Ryan	Sue Gilford
Val Christie	Sandra Peeters
Olive MacLeod	

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Meet Our Featured Artist ... Heidi Rolfe

Author: Liane Arno



I almost thought I was talking to an Italian when I met Heidi Rolfe because she used her hands almost as much as I do when I am talking. (I must share with you that when I am talking and my husband Matt wants me to stop talking he grabs my hands as he believes, quite rightly, that I can't speak without using my hands!) But I digress! For Heidi, life is all about the expression of emotion. And it is all about the water. It is what drew her to the Bass Coast Shire. It's water.

However, for most of her life Heidi has lived in the country. Starting her life in Vancouver, Canada, where she worked as an artist and art teacher, the recession forced her to the country in order to earn enough money to support herself and her son. It was a tough life and one where she ending up working on oil rigs in Calgary, deep in 'Cow Country, Canada', and home of the Calgary stampede. It was so cold in winter time that they had to keep the trucks running all night as otherwise there was no way to start them the next morning. The mist would be steaming off the frozen lakes and Heidi's job was to make sure that the men always had running water for all their working and personal needs. Whilst the men were always kind, it was the conditions that were harsh. It would be dark by two in the afternoon and many people suffered from SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder) due to the lack of sunlight. If that wasn't enough it would rain for five months of the year. It was depressing.

Heidi came to Australia to visit her sister who had an on-line romance that worked (she is still happily married). Heidi too found she loved the country but it wasn't easy to emigrate and it was an arduous series of returns to Canada and trips to New Zealand to renew her visa before she was finally granted permanent residency. Now she lives in an old farm house on a farm on the outskirts of Wonthaggi. She lives simply and loves the peace and quiet and the time that she has to create her art. Her farmer landlord, Hitch, has made a studio for her, lining it with beer cans (empty!) to provide some insulation and frankly quite a bit of colour! She loves the Australian bush and its creatures but tells me it took a while to get used to the Huntsmen spiders.



She has tried many different techniques from creating painted roses that are made from a papier mâché technique but look like ceramics, to covering skulls she finds on her many



walks in the bush with mosaics. She explains that by the time she finds the skulls nature has taken away all the flesh but she still needs to bleach them to clean them entirely. She uses peroxide to do so. In order to purchase them she needs to convince the retailer that she is not going to build a bomb, and given the large quantity that she is purchasing that she doesn't want to turn into an extreme blonde. Recently in the shed she made a papier mâché bull dog and she left it there as a guard to the entrance. Trouble was a mouse thought that the dog's tail would make a tasty treat!

Right now, she is working on a technique using heavily pigmented colour and water that she daubs onto canvases. She tells me (using her hands of course) how she loves the process of tilting the canvases to watch them create a life of their own.

She believes that the paint follows her sub conscious thinking, and so creating seascapes, or images from space, or stormy scenes – all according to what she is feeling at the time.

This new medium is so different to what Heidi usually produces. Normally she creates intricately hand drawn images of native Australian animals and scenes with 1000s of pen strokes for each drawing. The images might only be A5 or even A6 in size which are then reduced and printed onto cards that are sold at various locations including ArtSpace. She describes the two techniques as her Yin and Yang.

She is now seeking to publish a book – a historical fantasy that she admits will take some work to edit. In order to write it she took herself out to Mount Best and immersed herself in the bush and let her imagination take her to a land of shifting shapes and mystical beings. Of course, she also has drawn the creatures that she imagined – and all with these 1000s of pen strokes. I can't wait to see the final product as I am certain that the illustrations alone will be worth it.



EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

From the Bass Coast Shire website:

Recycled Art Exhibition 2018

The Southern Gippsland Sustainability Festival is returning to the State Coal Mine in Wonthaggi. This is an event that focuses on sustainable living options in Southern Gippsland (Bass Coast and South Gippsland Shires).

Held annually, the Festival hosts displays of alternative energy, local produce, self-sufficiency skills and a range of sustainable products.

The Festival showcases a range of exhibitors and eco-friendly products, provide practical information, down-to-earth demonstrations and speakers. These provide practical skills for residents and visitors to use daily at home, work and in their community. Local entertainment and children's activities mean that the day is not just about learning, but is also about having fun.

Recycled Art Exhibition

As well as a great range of exhibits, the Festival also hosts a Recycled Art Exhibition. The theme for 2018 is 'Plastic Bag Free Bass Coast'.

Aussies use 3.92 billion plastic bags a year – that's over 10 million new bags being used every day. And it's not just plastic bags. Think of all the other plastic that ends up in your bin: bubble wrap, chip packets, bread bags, frozen food bags and the plastic film that covers your magazines and newspapers.

Get creative with ideas that keep plastic bags out of the waste stream. Entries must use 50% recycled materials and embody the theme of Plastic Bag Free Bass Coast.



STOCKYARD
GALLERY
& SHOP

presents
**(almost)
CAPTURED**

Ken Irwin, the former 25-year
Melbourne Age newspaper
staff veteran, turns his whimsical
lens on the beaches of
Waratah Bay and their users.

Exhibition 7th - 31st December
Opening Saturday 16th December 2017
2 - 4 pm

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A Diamond Is Forever

Article by Ellen Hubble



Jill with a beautiful flower arrangement from the Bass Coast Shire, and her compadre Vicki.

Beautifully spoken and sparkling with enthusiasm, Jill was always keen to share her knowledge with visitors and new comers, and refined details with any of the more long-standing residents. She delightfully delivers crisp quips and shards of humour as accompaniment to her wealth of information. Her tireless support for tourism and local businesses was yet another gleaming facet.

Thank you for making people feel welcome and spreading our love of this beautiful town and everything it has to offer. We look forward to still seeing that sparkle around Wonthaggi.

Diamonds are from coal and one of the foundation stones from our historical coal town of Wonthaggi is Jill Muir, a jewel of no denial.

Now after 15 years of Volunteering at the Wonthaggi Visitor Information centre, Jill says farewell.

Jill commenced Volunteering at the Wonthaggi Visitor Information Centre in 2002 when they operated out of a very small office joined to the Watt Street toilet block and bus stop. Since 2011 Jill has enjoyed delivering information services from the excellent facilities at the Wonthaggi Centennial Centre and in recent years welcomed in the alliance of ArtSpace and the Wonthaggi Business & Tourism Association.

Born and bred in Wonthaggi with her family history going back to the tent town days, Jill's rich and deep connection is engrained.

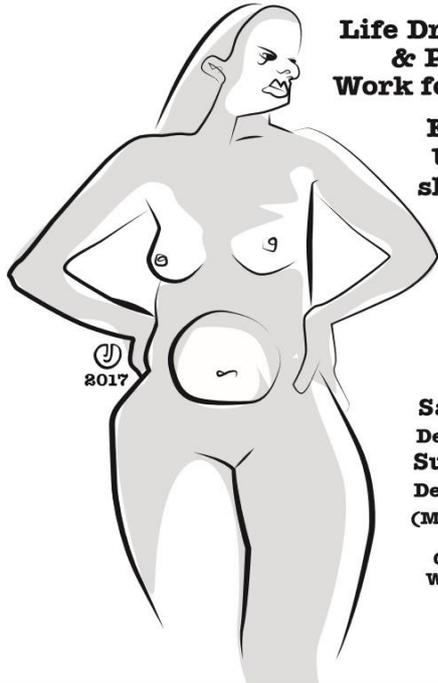
"It's God's Own Country." is how Jill describes her passion and love for the town and South Gippsland.

As a sentry to her soft heart, a flint edged resilience has been forged over the years by her tenacity and determination.

Photos from ArtSpace End of Year Gathering, Friday 1st December.
A lovely evening to catch up with our comrades and enjoy some beautiful food and drink.



Life Lines



**Life Drawing
& Portrait
Work for SALE**

**Framed &
Unframed
showcasing
the skills
of the
BCAS
Life &
Portrait
groups**

**Saturday 9th
December 10 - 4
Sunday 10th
December 8- 2
(Market hours)
at, the
Goods Shed
Wonthaggi**

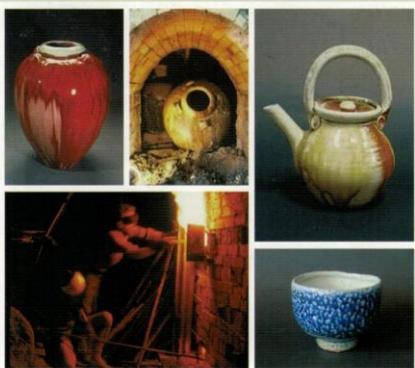
One Click
PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY BY JASON SULLIVAN

BUY : Canvas Wraps and Photo Art
DATES : December 1st - 31st 2017
TIME : 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Daily
VENUE : Inverloch Community Hub
WHERE : 16 A'Beckett Street Inverloch

www.JasonSullivanPhoto.com

GOOSENECK POTTERY



Kiln Opening & Christmas Exhibition
2nd & 3rd and 9th & 10th December
10am-5pm

2017 Christmas Exhibition

Featuring Indigenous Artists

*Cassie Leatham, Andrew Gall
& Allister Young*

**Opens 25th November
ends 31st January 2018**

**Bubbles & Beers
MEET THE
ARTISTS**

official opening 1 pm
Saturday
25th November



Australian Jewellers

**Goldsmiths
Artisans**

*Allister Young
Amanda Dowd
Andrew Gall
Bronwyn Pratt
Ian Buchanan
Jane Power
Luke Abbot
Marie Rose
Monica Szwaja
Nadine Trigg
Naomi Walsh
Robin Phillips
Sondi Studio
Sylvia Ballerini*



The Goldsmith's Gallery

SHOP LOCAL- BUY LOCAL- EAT LOCAL

Sculptures at Lucinda

The 4th 'Sculptures at Lucinda' Winery in Leongatha, South Gippsland is now open. It's a great destination for wine/ art lovers and families alike to explore., The show is in a beautiful setting just off the South Gippsland Highway at 110 Parr Street, with views of the surrounding hills. Many of Gippsland's finest sculptors will be displaying their works among the vines., The show is open Fridays & weekends before Christmas and daily from the New Year, with pizzas and tastings available, until the end of January.

Come along for a look at our fantastic exhibition.

14 artists with over 35 works amongst the vines.

We have pizza available, great wines
and a tasting room to shelter in should things change.

Bring a broolly if you're a bit unsure!

108 Parr Street, Leongatha. From 6pm onwards...



Sculptures at Lucinda
1 December 2017 to 28 January 2018

Come and sample superb wines, whilst viewing the amazing sculptures of Gippslands leading artists

Lucinda Estate

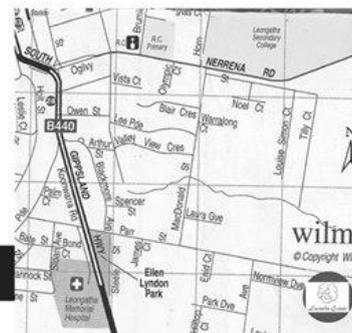
Taste some wonderful wines whilst viewing these great local artists amongst the vines
Robert Barron Laurie Collins Regina Dudek David Enbom Grant Flather Anita George Sue Gilford
Lee Harrison Kerry Harrison Andy Hicks Bob Hickman Leslie Monahan John Musters Mark Olsen

Twilight Opening 6.00 - late Friday 1 December 2017
Open Fri, Sat & Sunday thru December 11:30 - 5 pm
Open daily thru January
Weekdays 1 - 5 pm Weekends 11:30 - 5 pm
Pizza available

108 Parr St, Leongatha 3953

Tel: 0417 337 270 www.lucindaestate.com

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A Big Thanks to Our Sponsors

Glen Orchard of gtcdesign has created our lovely new website.



Intuitive Design

IS YOUR CURRENT SITE MOBILE FRIENDLY? WITH THE GROWTH OF SMART PHONES, TABLETS AND GAME CONSOLES ALL CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET YOU NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT YOUR BUSINESS SHINES ON ANY SCREEN SIZE.



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