



BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE NEWSLETTER September 2022

WEBSITE: www.bmcac.org.au

FACEBOOK: [bmcac](#) & [bmcacsaturdaypotters](#)

INSTAGRAM [lifedrawing_glenbrook](#)



Spring flowers and unfurling leaves are surrounding the Hare Street Centre.

ARTIST CALL OUT

For the Blue Mountains Art Prize 2022

23 to 25 September

Please register your entry by this Friday, 16 September

Our 'Hare Street' Centre is located on the traditional homeland of the Dharug and Gundungurra people. We recognize and pay respect to the traditional custodians of country past, present and emerging.

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Alison, our President, adding tiles created by children further beautifying our Centre.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Nothing is forever and we are mourning.

Vale Gina Rickard (1964—2022), beloved member of BMCAC, and most recently of Victor's oil painting class and our Life Drawing group.

To quote Queen Elizabeth II, according to PM Anthony Albanese: "Grief is the price we pay for love."

Bronwyn has written a report about the Penrith Show winners (p. 6 & 7).

This month's poet is my friend Gabriel from Chile (p. 10).

Our annual exhibition is imminent. Please note dates and times (p. 11), and register your entry by this Friday, 16 September.

Please send contributions for 'Creations' magazine in 'word' format to rudich7@dodo.com

Cheers,

Rudi Christen

'Creations' Editor



Get in touch with us ! We like to hear from you.

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Ingrid RUSSELL	Vice President & Arts Director	0423 124 473	bmcac.mail@gmail.com
Bronwyn CAMPBELL	Secretary & Pottery Facilitator	0411 041 054	a.b.campbell@optusnet.com.au
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Katherine KENNEDY	Printmaking Coordinator		katherine.kennedy6@hotmail.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT *Alison James*

Dear Members,

Today is R U OK day (8-9-22), a day on which we are encouraged as a nation to start a conversation with those around us about how they are feeling, to check in on their mental health and a reminder that every-day is a day that we can do this, everyday someone, somewhere is going through a rough patch, having a run of bad luck, stressed, anxious or just needing a human connection.

This day has come after a very difficult few weeks for me personally with the loss of a close family member and just a few days after the very sad news of the loss of one of our art members, Gina Rickard.

Gina's family shared her struggles with mental health with the community in the hopes that it would remind people to ask that question, R U OK? And to also reach those struggling and remind them that there are people willing to help and listen.

Gina took painting classes with us over many terms and she will be greatly missed by those who knew her. On Tuesday September 6th, the oil painting class and their teacher, Victor, planted a beautiful Protea on the Centre's grounds in memory of Gina. We send our condolences to her family and friends.

They say art is great therapy. Our Centre is not just a place that teaches classes, it's a place where we can make friends and connect with like minded people, where you can express yourself through art and a place where you can connect with more of your community. Picasso once said "Art washes from the soul, the dust of everyday life" and Georgia O'Keeffe once stated "I found I could say things with colour and shapes that I couldn't say in any other way - things I had no words for" and I personally say 'let your art start a conversation, if you don't know how to with words'.

You are welcome at the Centre, even if you don't have a class on. You can come sit in the grounds and paint or draw, or simply grab a book from the community library, sit and read, take some time out. If there's no classe on you can organise to use the space to finish off a project or talk to the maintenance guys, David and David, and they will get you helping out around the grounds especially if you are handy but maybe feeling at a loss for something to do with yourself.

Please take care of yourselves, check in on family and friends and ask them are they ok? A kind gesture, a generous ear to listen or simply a text can make all the difference to someone.

If you're finding it tough or need some extra support, please contact one of the following helplines:

Lifeline (24/7) 131112 lifeline.org.au

Suicide Call Back Service (24/7) [1300 659 467](tel:1300659467) suicidecallbackservice.org.au

Beyond Blue (24/7) [1300 224 636](tel:1300224636) beyondblue.org.au

Your President,

Alison James

ART DIRECTOR'S REPORT *Ingrid Russell*

We are coming to the end of Term 3 and are looking towards planning Term 4. Enrolments will open October 1 and classes will restart October 17 for Term 4.

Before that however, we have the 2022 Blue Mountains Art Prize 23, 24 & 25 September. The main hall will be closed for all activities and access from Monday September 19th till the 25th. This will allow for the hanging to take place. Opening night will be Friday 23 from 6:00 pm. We welcome any and all volunteers to help man the exhibition over the weekend. If you can spare a couple of hours that would be great. Please let me know so I can prepare the roster.

Hare St Gallery Report

We are now into our Third Quarter. The gallery is looking great.

GARDENING & GRANTS REPORT *Liz Bryden*

The garden is going well with many plants promising to put on a wonderful Spring display. The May Bushes along the front entry are covered in buds, and the Irises, Bromeliads, Crucifix Orchids and Red Hot Pokers are adding some late winter and early spring colour. I also removed most of the large Pig-face near the jade yurt as it had died back and was looking terrible. This was replaced with a hardy blue flowering groundcover and bordered by yellow, grey leafed "Kangaroo Paw" plants. With all the rain the plants seem to be adapting well to the new location.

However there was one disappointment. The tall Jacaranda that was planted near the front gate a few years ago with the aim being to draw attention to the Centre with some summer colour was snapped off and so years of growth lost. I am hoping that this was the result of an accident, not vandalism, but in any case it is disappointing that the Jacaranda effect will be delayed.

Also, if anyone is doing any garden work, please put any waste material in the green bin and if possible, let me know if the bin is full. Just a text will do. With the September green bin being collected every week, the aim is to clean up the pile near the pottery yurt, so the state of the bin is important.

Grants: We are yet to hear about the BMCC Community Assistance Grant.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- **50th Anniversary.** Our 50th anniversary is still in the planning stage but it will take the form of an Open Day at the Centre with all members being invited to sell their ware , demonstrations and participatory events.
- **Sand stone blocks.** These have been purchased for \$770 to provide some seating in our front garden.
- **Festoon lighting.** It was moved by Alison that the Centre buy festoon lighting for up to \$200, to be used on special occasions. Seconded by Katrina – passed unanimously.
- **Recycle bins.** Andrea will buy the recycle bins without cost to the Centre
- **Donation.** \$100 donation was made to the Penrith Show prize pool

Our kiln technician Andrew Thomas has looked at our kilns once again. We sorted out the problem with Baby Bear, which was a problem with a long ago harco cone program setting in the computer; thankfully not a problem with the kiln itself. It has been fired successfully and is ready for general use again. Andrew looked at Mother Bear and it was decided to remove all the elements. He will return in a week or two, replace all the elements, repair the broken brick work and replace the fibre on the door. He will use fibre we already have, left over after repairing the raku kilns. This will save us about \$200.

POTTERY HINTS FOR REPAIRING CRACKS:

Taken from "Collected Wisdom" Ceramic Study Group, Australia

Leatherhard: Apply gentle pressure from a modelling tool. If the ware is dry, make a slurry from dry clay and vinegar (same clay as the pot) and press it well into the crack.

Bisqueware: A fine hair crack can be filled by rubbing it with another piece of bisqueware made from the same clay, pushing the fine grog produced into the crack with your finger. If it is a wide crack fill it with a paste of the fine grog and a small amount of glaze.

To glaze an already glazed pot or a high fired bisqued pot, mix 50/50 Bondcrete or Loxrete with water. Paint over the pot and allow to dry. This gives the pot a "key" to make reglazing easier. Warming the pot in the oven first is also helpful. The glue burns out in the firing and doesn't affect the glaze.

"May your hands be full of clay and your hearts be full of imagination."

Happy potting

Bronwyn

HOT OUT OF THE KILN



Sarah Tankard



Mugs by Sarah Tankard and Cathryn Lu



Ashleigh Carlson, Monday group

PENRITH SHOW WINNERS

By Bronwyn Campbell

The Nepean Potters Society organises the Penrith Show display each year and look after the display in conjunction with the Ceramic Group.

The BMCAC donated \$100 towards the prize pool.

Unfortunately, entries were down from previous years and the NPS would dearly love to have more entries to ensure continuation of the event in future years. The show is usually held in August so plan for next year.

Once again our BMCAC members were very successful.



Marianne Pollpeter, a long time member of the BMCAC and NPS, swept the pool this year.

Left: Her Black Queen won the overall Council Award.

Right : Bronwyn Campbell was winner of the open thrown section.



Left: Marianne Pollpeter won the hand built section and also received an encouragement award from the council for this African inspired pot.



Left: Bronwyn Campbell won second for her tiny vase in the Low Fire Section

Right: Marianne Pollpeter was awarded second in the Sculpture Section.



Below: an overall view of one of the display tables.

To the left of The Queen is Kathy Bell's (NPS) pit fired pot, winner of the Low Fired Section.





Above, bottom left: Marianne's bowl won a council encouragement award. This pot was created by dripping slip onto a balloon. Freda Carlo won the Sculpture section for a St Marys potter. Marianne can be seen doing her roster duty in the background.

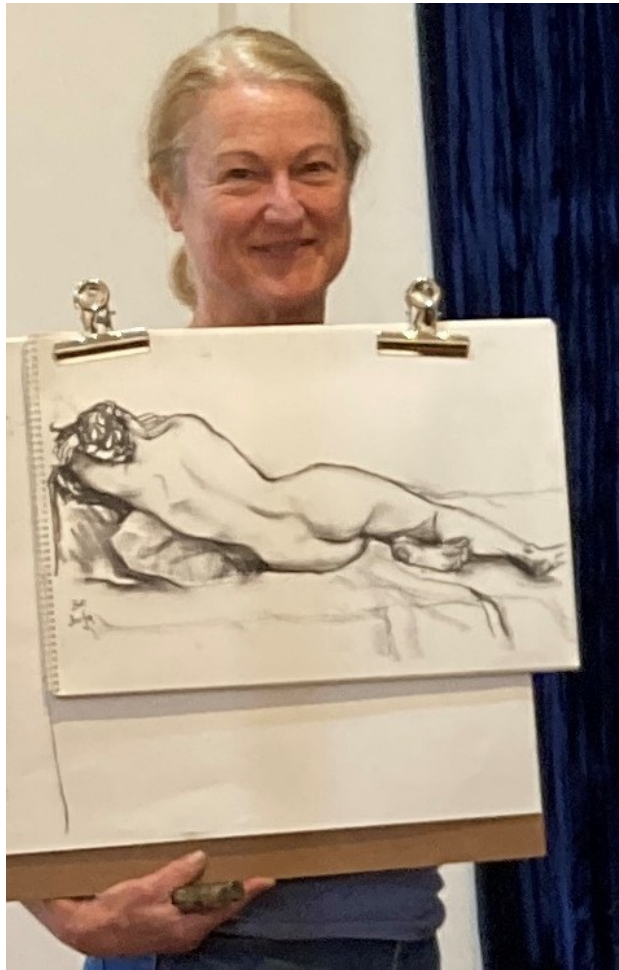
Below: The lantern you can see on the left won a second for the hand built section for a St Marys potter. On the far right are some tiny dishes that won 1st in the Beginners Sections.

I left some of our cards advertising The Centre and Hare St Gallery. Several people collected these and inquired about classes. The Show is a great opportunity to promote the activities of The Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre, The Nepean Pottery Society and The St Marys Group.



This month has brought with it great sadness as we mourn the sudden loss of our dear friend and fellow artist, Gina Rickard.

She always made us laugh and energised the room with her presence. She had a generous spirit, always making sure our models and new-comers felt welcome. Gina showed genuine interest in what each person in our group was doing and how their art was progressing. She created many beautiful and sensitive drawings and water-colours. There is a gap in our room and we miss her.



Gina with one of her Life Studies



A painting by Gina

BUILDING COORDINATOR'S REPORT *David Russell*

Over the last few months, we have been lucky with weather and the lots of sunny days have allowed D1 and D2 to continue complete the crazy paved path from the main building to the Jade Yurt. We have installed a grassed area outside the main building and continued to enhance the BMCAC with quality installations. The final section of the path in Hare Street has been completed with stone sourced from around the centre and added much colour. To date the first day of Spring, the path is finished and has been washed and blown dry and today will have a coat of sealer added to retain the wonderful colour of the sandstone



We have added a border of bricks and rocks to also retain the garden above the path.

David Attwood has ensured that there is suitable seating out the front of the Hare Street Co-Op by sourcing and installing large sandstone logs. He has also laid a nice border around the front garden to give the grassed area a contemporary feel.



We also have given a new look to the existing entrance path with a high pressure clean to remove some of the moss and lichen. There is a need however, to revisit the old pavers and relocate and clean wash them to bring out the full colour. This could be done as a collective for our next working bee day.



Poetry Corner

The River

*Look at the velocity of the river,
no secret rivers or mystic ones.
In this whirl sound of water, every river brings memories,
music, consciousness of our ancestors.
Pearly stone rivers... rivers with a stain of blood.*

*The river, silent mountain where the light is born.
The archipelago of luminosity.
The fish, the rain, the canoes, the cosmic blue element.
Water had immersed in the depth of the earth,
tattooing with her force the translucent diaphanous stones.*

*In the shadow of the night,
the river unable to be dormant and content,
sings a song of despair, the music of our ancestors.
The lament, the sound of swords, galloping horses,
still smelling like gunpowder on the banks of the river?*

Gabriel Jimenez
(from his 'Visual Poems', 2021 Edition)



Gabriel with friends from the Andes Mountains.

WHAT'S ON ?

Workshops, Galleries, Exhibitions, Prize Entries, Coming Events

IMPORTANT DATES

- Fri. 16 September - Entries close for BMCAC Art Prize
- Sun 18 September - Deliver artwork between 10am and 2pm
- Fri. 23 September, 7.30pm - Opening night with Award Presentations.
- Sat. 24 and Sun. 25th September - Art Prize Exhibition at Glenbrook Community Hall
- Thu. 6 October, 7.30pm, Next Committee Meeting

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

- Sat. 15 Oct. '**Nature Lab**' workshop with Andrea Ketterling for pre-schoolers and their parents .
- Sun. 16 Oct. '**Chalk Painting**' workshop (Furniture Painting) with Sue Jeffries,
How to refurbish furniture correctly with chalk paint (for details: 0407 918 593)

EXHIBITIONS

PENRITH REGIONAL GALLERY

86 River Road, Emu Plains

The Gallery is open daily from 10am – 3.45pm

52 ACTIONS until 20 NOV

Artspace presents the launch of its national tour of the acclaimed *52 ACTIONS* at Penrith Regional Gallery, featuring works from 52 Australian artist and collective across generations, geographies and cultural backgrounds. Working in a wide variety of mediums, together they highlight the diversity, complexity and dynamism of contemporary Australian art.

As the title suggests, *52 ACTIONS* is grounded in art as action. The artists explore and reflect on what art is, what it can do within the gallery and far beyond: art as a political motivator, a cultural transmitter, a means for understanding, a tool for shifting perspectives, holding memory, bridging divides and inciting change. These ideas are intimately connected with the role of the artist, from facilitator to provocateur, creator to witness.

Guided by the local, the artists' actions speak to critical global concerns including systemic discrimination, climate change, forced migration and colonial legacies. Notions of freedom are ever present, as is the sacred knowledge of First Peoples, the importance of family and community, and speculations about our shared future.



Katoomba - Night & Day An Exhibition by Roman Gryg 6th - 17th October

Roman Gryg returns to ONE88 this October with his unique perspective on local Katoomba streetscapes. If you enjoyed Roman's first exhibition you will not want to miss this one.

Roman is a past member of our Life Drawing group.

Due to C-19 restrictions RSVP is essential for Exhibition Opening.

All artwork available for purchase online.

Please email one88 - info@galleryone88finearts.com

ArtWest 2022

will be held on **Saturday 29th and 30th October**

at the Memorial Building 1, St Marys Corner, 29 Swanston St, St Marys.

Opening is Friday night at 6:30 pm.

In the past ArtWest has been a competition but this year the organisers wanted to change the focus and make it a celebration of makers, so no prizes.

Entry is free, to all. You can enter 2 pieces and they can be for sale or NFS.

Enquiries david@nma.org.au

Ph 0298332416.

Kerrie and Elisabeth invite you to join us at the Opening
by Penny Biggins of Castanet Club and Play School fame

6 - 8pm Friday 16 September

Masks should be worn in the Gallery.

Hours during Teapot Show:

Monday - Saturday 10am - 4pm

Sunday and Public Holidays 12 -- 4pm

The Sydney Teapot Show 2022



Lelene Trenga
The Perfect Bird of Tulgey Wood



Kara Fryal
The Owl and the Pussyfoot



Fleur Schell
The universe listens to the grave



Sally Khurshed
Toast to the Jabberwocky



Nico Perry-Jones
As in foolish thought he stood

Part of Sydney Craft Week run by Australian Design Centre

Opening 6 - 8pm Friday 16 September by Penny Biggins

of Castanet Club fame, Actor and Musician, Play School

Exhibition continues to Sunday 16 October



Kerrie Lowe Gallery | 49 - 51 King Street, Newtown 2042 | At Sydney Uni end of King Street
T: 02 9550 4433 | E: lowekerrie@gmail.com | www.kerrielowegallery.com | Insta: @kerrielowegallery
Open 7 days during the show: Mon - Sat 10am - 4.00pm | Sun 12 midday - 4pm

Sydney
Craft Week

Some favourites from past years:



Laurence Parker



Marina Pittard



Keith Yeo



Amanda Harbison



Sunnee Schanz



Mary-Lou Pittard

With thanks to our Sponsors:

WALKER CERAMICS *The Supreme Teapot - Best in Show*

COMBER CONSULTANTS *The Australian Archaeology Teapot*

KEANE CERAMICS *Top of the Pops! a music based Teapot*

GLEEBOOKS *Nonsense Poems of Lewis Carroll and Edward Lear*

KERRIE LOWE GALLERY *Pour - a perfectly practical Teapot*

NERADA TEA *The People's Choice - vote for your favourite Teapot!*

Vote for your favourite in
The People's Choice
sponsored by
Nerada Tea
an Australian Tea Company



POWERHOUSE MUSEUM

500 Harris St, Ultimo NSW 2007

Clay Dynasty

11 October 2021 – 29 January 2023

Clay Dynasty celebrates studio ceramics in Australia as shaped by three generations of makers: from the 1960s pioneers who transformed the functional pottery tradition to contemporary ceramic artists who continue to push the medium. The first major exhibition to chart the astonishing diversity of ceramic practice across Australia, it features more than 400 objects from the Powerhouse's significant ceramics collection. *Clay Dynasty* offers new perspectives by displaying ceramics of the crafts movement alongside postmodern and contemporary artworks of today. Distinctively Australian works complement those inspired by other cultural traditions, bold forms contrast with meditative objects and fine porcelain.

The NSW Iris Society is holding the **NSW Iris Show** on *29 and 30 October* at

The Gallery, Everglades Gardens, Leura.

As well as flowers, we exhibit original Iris themed art, craft and photography.

There is no charge to exhibit and **artists** will be able to sell works with 20% commission going to the National Trust. They will also be eligible to win show championship awards.

For further information please contact:

Barbara Levy

Secretary, NSW Iris Society

T. 0433 494 102

The Sydney Jewish Museum

148 Darlinghurst Road Darlinghurst, NSW Australia 2010

Phone (02) 9360 7999

[Feature Exhibition](#)

Shaken to his Core: The Untold Story of Nolan's Auschwitz

Until 23 October

This exhibition showcases 50 paintings by the prolific Australian artist Sir Sidney Nolan that have never been seen before in Australia. They tell the story of a largely unknown chapter in Nolan's life: the trial of the Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann, and the artist's own visit to Auschwitz.

Mon - Thu	10am to 4pm
Fri	10am to 3pm
Sat	Closed
Sun	10am to 4:30pm



Blue Mountains Art Prize

Prize pool
valued over
\$4,000

Entries Open

Image by Lilliane Ivins - 2021 Blue Mountains Art Prize recipient

Proudly sponsored by



September
23rd to 25th

Open to all artists
2D and 3D artwork

32cm x 32cm x 32cm
size limit including
frame

D rings or foam
core backing

\$25 per entry
2 entries maximum

www.bmcac.org.au