

# ARTY FACTS

March/April, 2023

Lower Clarence Arts and Craft Association

Ferry Park Gallery PO Box 194, MACLEAN, NSW, 2463

Email: [info@ferrypark.net](mailto:info@ferrypark.net) Website: [www.ferrypark.net](http://www.ferrypark.net)

## OFFICE BEARERS

President

Penny Stuart

Vice Presidents

Bobbie Winger

1 vacant position

Secretary

Gloria Lee

Treasurer

Gloria Lee

Gallery Coordinators

Karin Brear

Jean Versace

Exhibitor's Reps

Jean Versace

Yoko Christinson

Exhibition Coordinator

Vacant

Minute Secretary

Suz Monin

Publicity Officer/Arty

Facts: Di Nixon/Jean

Versace

Social Media: Suz

Monin

Junior Art

Jean Versace

Events co-ord: vacant

## President Penny Stuart's Report:

It has been a lively and exciting time at the Gallery since the CVC's Plunge Festival opened at the end of March.

On Wed 29<sup>th</sup> March, we again hosted the 'Love and Life FM' radio station, who set up on our verandah for an afternoon of promotion of Plunge events and music. It was a great meeting of Clarence Valley creatives as they came to promote their various events. I spoke about the Association and the Gallery, Jean about the 8 x 8 and Sue Carl for the Patchwork and Quilters to promote their Easter Airing of the Quilts.

The 8 x 8 Exhibition has been a resounding success, with a great response from the community and from further afield. A record number of junior entries is a credit to the art educators of the Valley. The Opening saw a wonderful attendance and a flurry of sales after the presentations. Pam and Jean, you should be very proud of your mammoth efforts and thanks also to all who helped out along the way and at the opening...it must be noted that 'Gloria-Jean' did a fabulous job with the influx of sales on Opening night. The Junior Presentation event saw a gallery full to the brim with happy children and their families.

Congratulations to the Patchwork and Quilters for their very successful 'Airing of the Quilts' over Easter...the town was abuzz with people coming to Maclean for the Gathering and the quilt show!

At a committee meeting in March, we began a draft letter to Council, to make suggestions for the beautification of the carpark area after the removal of the old ferry. If you have any thoughts on this, can you please contact Suz or myself or leave your thoughts in the Suggestion Box.?

Welcome to our new members and exhibitors.

**Penny**

## Artist of the Month for April: Karin Brear

A diversity of interests has led to Karin's presentation at the Gallery. From decorative art practice and teaching in early years, through classes and experimentation in pastels (her favourite), acrylics, oils, watercolour, inks and mixed media, she now works in a variety of styles.



Since coming to the Clarence Valley six years ago, Karin has found inspiration in its unique beauty. Painting and photographing nature – the ocean, birds, flowers, landscapes – are her joys, though she also presents here some abstract work.

She is a member of Ferry Park Gallery and Iluka Emporium and actively promotes her work on social media outlets.

Call in and see Karin's range of artwork. Originals and prints, crafts and cards round out her lovely paintings and pastels.

## Artist of the Month for March: Kathy Cheetham

Kathy's resin art drew many compliments during her Artist of the Month spot and sales were positive for her colourful work. Raised in Sydney, Kathy lived in Papua-New Guinea before settling here on the Clarence, where she decided to raise her family. Her previous mediums include sketching and lead-lighting, but her passion is working with resin. "I love its movement, its fluidity, its lack of continuity", she says. "Each piece carves its own course; it's evocative." Kathy has been inspired by her artistic family and the complexities in nature.

Her work continues to be on display in the gallery.



## Gloria Lee: Life Member

At this year's annual meeting, Life Membership was bestowed on our Secretary/Treasurer, Gloria Lee, whose dedication to the gallery is

legendary. Because she was indisposed at the time, President Penny took the opportunity on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup>, to present her with her badge.

Congratulations, Gloria, and thank you for your commitment to the LCACA.

### **Farewell to Karl and Ursula Rubli**

Following our meeting on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup>, we farewelled Ursula and Karl Rubli who are returning to Switzerland to be with family.

Karl has exhibited his delightful wood carvings to great acclaim and his recent venture in hebel carving has also been a very popular addition to the gallery.

Karl has been a generous supporter of the gallery and all of its exhibitions and occasions, and he and Ursula have been regular attendees of our social functions over the years.

We wish them well and will miss them very much. Keep in touch, Ursula and Karl. We're always on Facebook.



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**Social Media:**

Social media hits continue to grow.

Special events such as Artist of the Month and the current 8x8 Exhibition bring attention to FPG and the Association, while Artist of the Month 'reach' numbers show the power of sharing with friends on the platforms. Those exhibitors who use social media platforms have the most reaches. The 8x8 has attracted nearly 9000 reaches on Facebook and nearly 900 on Instagram, with thanks to Clarence Valley Culture pages covering Plunge events.

In the past month, up until 9<sup>th</sup> April, there have been 4,400 other Facebook reaches and 354 on Instagram.

We now have 864 followers on Facebook and 461 on Instagram. Interestingly, on Instagram 23% of our audience is from Sydney, while only 8% on Facebook. **Suz Monin**

### **Exhibitors' Representatives:**

The issues of the alarm and of lighting for the jewellery cabinets and members' room are in hand. The removal of the ferry will begin on 1<sup>st</sup> May, so access to parking areas will change marginally. Be aware that this is also the day that 8x8s are to be collected.

**A reminder to exhibitors to remember which areas of their art and craft have been approved by the committee. If you wish to exhibit outside these approvals, or include another medium, you must make a further submission. Each exhibitor is able to display work in TWO mediums, subject to committee approval.**

**Jean Versace and Yoko Christinson**

### **Gallery Coordinators:**

I would like to welcome Jean on board to help me coordinate the gallery. I am looking forward to working with her. A huge thank you to Pam for the last couple of years for her wonderful job as the Gallery Coordinator.

Thanks to everyone for keeping their area stocked up and tidy. Just a reminder to artists to also bring in new work at changeover to keep the gallery fresh. Any suggestions to improve the gallery are welcome.

Our Artist of the Month displays have been well received and the displays have been eye catching. Well done. The 8 x 8 opening was a huge success. Thanks to all involved.

We wish Karl and Ursula all the best. Karl, your wonderful wood pieces will be missed and all your contributions over the years. Travel safely and enjoy your new home.

Hopefully the visitors will keep coming and enjoy our wonderful gallery.

**Karin Brear and Jean Versace**

### **Tuesday Arters:**

During March the group mainly focussed on completing their 8x8 works and we are all pleased with the wonderful exhibition on display. Several arters also entered paintings in the Wooli Easter fundraising exhibition. Suz, Jean and Betty have spent hours working on their Cowper Gallery showing and are very happy with the results.

Word of our group has been spreading and it looks like our numbers continue to grow as we met two more interested ladies.

Due to hall bookings, there will not be any Tuesday activities for most of April. Time to ponder and work on our 'Botanical' masterpieces, perhaps.

**Sandy Burnett**

## **P & Q:**

Our group held a very successful Airing of the Quilts over Easter.

Our aim was to raise funds to support the revamping of the palliative room at Maclean Hospital.

We are pleased to report that \$3000 is being donated to the auxiliary this Tuesday.

**Chris Bale**

## **8x8 Small Works Exhibition**

This has been such a great success, with record sales (and attendance, I believe) on opening night, as well as the following morning when the junior artists' awards were announced.

Our judges, Annie Roberts, Suz and Penny, were faced with daunting tasks, but came through with excellent results.

Thank you to all who helped, particularly Penny and Suz whose advice and hanging skills were so very much appreciated (and needed). Members and their families have been generous in their work to get this exhibition up and running, as well as in the catering on the night. Thanks to Kaye Grayson, our much-appreciated RSA, behind the bar. Thank you, Penny, for running the show on the night; and Suz, for your wonderful Facebook and Instagram coverage. Thank you, Gloria, for your prompt payment of prizemoney.

Again, Mayor Ian Tiley was present to open the Small Works exhibition. Thank you, Ian: a generous and faithful attendee. Special thanks to all those who attended and those who took such a great opportunity to own art of such quality as we see here.

**Jean Versace and Pam Birrell**

## **Judges' Comments: 2023 8x8 Junior Results**

Penny Stuart and Suz Monin spent an enjoyable morning viewing all of the Junior 8x8 entries, 149 in total. We noted that there were works that were guided and those that were original works of the young artists. While there were many with the same theme, but when looked at closely, these showed the individuality of the artists. When judging, we looked at how each related to the theme of Small Wonders, the composition of the piece, the use of colour and media as well as originality.

Thanks to all the young artists who put their work out in the public domain and to parents, grandparents, teachers and tutors who guided them.

Special thanks to Jean and Pam for their curating a marvellous exhibition.

**Penny and Suz** *Catch up with lots of photos on Facebook/Instagram*

**Section 2**      **4-7 Years**

First	117	Mabel Farrel	<b>Own Painting</b> This piece is truly her own painting! Mabel has captured an insect (or is it a chameleon?) in a natural pose just waiting to pounce. Good use of colour
Second	110	Harry Benfield	<b>The Chick</b> Well executed and painterly. Harry kept to the theme
Third	133	Oliver Rainbow	<b>Bee City</b> Oliver's work depicted the busyness of the hive with free use of paint
HC	129	Thomas McDonald	<b>Abstract Art</b> Nice colour and composition with the addition of the key that kept the eye moving around the painting.
HC	138	Tyler Shawyer	<b>Honey Bee</b> While one of a group of bees done in the same style, Tyler's work showed individuality of line and shape.
HC	112	Kaden Burnside	<b>Bubbly Jellyfish</b> Another done as a group. In this work Kaden has shown movement through placement of the jellyfish and clarity with choice of colours.

### Section 3 8-11 Years

First	174	Shepherd Frost	<b>Beetle Bott</b> Shepherd created a well-executed, original drawing of a rhino beetle which displayed creativity in combining the organic and mechanical.
Second	226	Ruby Versace	<b>Germ</b> Ruby used her imagination to show the complexity of the forms of germs under a microscope. It shows excellent colour combination with clean lines.
Third	213	April Skumavc	<b>Fancy Feather</b> This work displays the power of simplicity, using a limited palette and good composition. Great work, April.
HC	201	Oliver Moss	<b>Rip Shore</b> Oliver's drawing skills are to be commended. This is a imaginative work with hidden elements.
HC	185	Jessica Kelly	<b>Guineapillars</b> What a fabulous title! A lovely play on words. Jessica's work displays good use of paint and composition in the tree.
HC	206	Mia Ottosson	<b>Snapshot</b> This is an intriguing work. The more you look at it, the more you wonder! Well done, Mia.

### Section 4 12-16 Years

As the artists mature, so does their work, their understanding of the theme and execution.

First	247	Imogen Lee	<b><i>Night Drive Fog</i></b> This is a moody and atmospheric piece displaying the wonder of a simple shape- the heart in the foggy car window.
Second	255	Sophie Waters	<b><i>Flower Gazing at our Small Wonder</i></b> Another thoughtful interpretation of the theme. It displays a sophisticated concept using a limited palette to great effect.
Third	235	Jack Benfield	<b><i>The Last Dandelion</i></b> While it is a classic image, Jack has executed a delicate and moving piece. Great use of painting tools.
HC	239	Kloe-May Chellew	<b><i>Tangled Turtle</i></b> Clear lines allow the viewer to look deep within the work.
HC	245	Grace Kennedy	<b><i>World Goes Round</i></b> An unusual piece, a thoughtful concept with great line work.
HC	251	Zoe Rayward	<b>Larry</b> Lovely execution using pencil and an interesting background. Just look at those eyes!

### Open Section

Judge, Annie Roberts of Iluka Emporium, offered the following remarks.

Congratulations to all for your careful consideration of the concept “Small Wonders”.

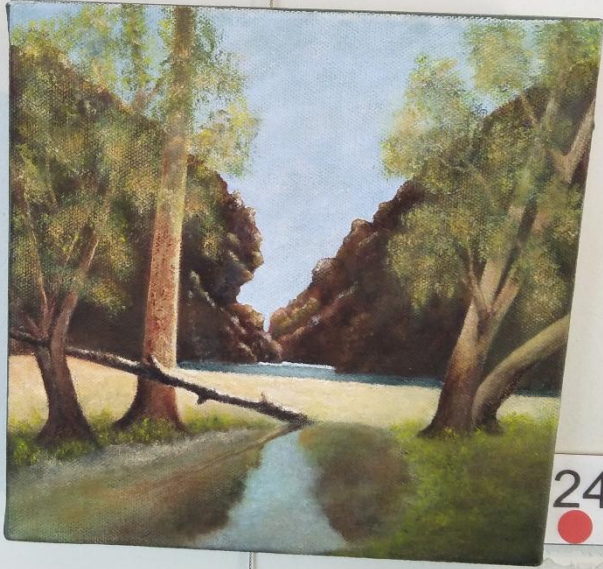
The varied and brave use of media impressed me immensely- and the competence with which all artists used their chosen media was also evident. In judging, the main parameters I set for myself were “material practice” and ‘conceptual strength”.

I must mention “Bees” as a chosen subject by quite a few artists. Certainly, they are a “small wonder” and I hope all take care to nurture their well-being. They are essential to our well-being.

**Annie Roberts**

First	24	Patricia Garde	<b><i>Ellery Creek</i></b> I was engaged immediately by the restrained use of colour and the sensitive handling of oil on canvas. <b>(Pictured below, with Rosette and Red Sticker.)</b>
Second	6	Robyn Bowden	<b><i>Baby Aaron</i></b> Again, very competent handling of oil on canvas creating cosiness and reminding the audience of that sweet baby perfume. Definitely, always a small wonder.
Third	12	Peter Buxton	<b><i>Gnome Heaven</i></b> Such mystery and childhood memory are evoked with very competent use of tonal gradations leading us far into the scene.
HC	59	Ally Mead	<b><i>Ichthyophile’s Elysium 2050</i></b> “What is this?” one asks at first. The title, until I googled it, is a mystery and then slowly the story is revealed. A small wonder, indeed, when one first experiences snorkelling. Very considered construction.





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