

## Summer School of Music and Art 2009

This year's summer school was once again a great success with 147 participants across 17 courses, which were either full or had a healthy number of participants. Thanks go to Suzannah, who did a wonderful job with the catering. Sincere thanks to all of the volunteers who give of their time each year.

And of course a huge thank you to all our Sponsors for their generosity in supporting this valuable community event.

### Art courses

Courses this year were Advanced Watercolour and Pen and Wash,

Pastel Drawing, Life Drawing, Monoprinting, "Lost and Found", "Away with the Birds" and Felting Hats and Scarves. There was much beautiful work produced and it was lovely to see the results of the week's efforts on the Thursday afternoon viewing.

The felted hats were a highlight, with some outlandish and lovely creations. We will again look at exhibiting Summer School artwork at our future Summer Schools.

### Music and Dance Courses

This year we ran five courses, Choir, A Cappella (specializing in Brazilian song), Chamber Music, Jazz Improvisation, and Nia dance. The concert on Thursday evening was of an exceptionally high standard and was very inclusive, entertaining and fun. Thank you to our terrific tutors and also to the Blake family musicians who came along to help.

### Arts for Kids

The Arts for Kids programme was a terrific success again with 40 children attending. We had many new faces, with some older kids graduating on to Film-making.



The children made a calendar, explored Pop Art, Origami, Sumi writing, self-portraits, quilling, and more. They also enjoyed circus, gymnastics, Creative Music and African Drumming.

### Film-making

Film-making was again tutored by Amanda Kerley, and the 14 young participants worked hard all week to write, script, film and edit a variety of short films. They were younger than the last few years, and show a great deal of promise for the future. There were some fantastic and very funny films produced.

### Dinner and Concert

Dinner and the Concert were held at Sanctuary House Motel this year, as the RACV Club is still being renovated. This was a cosy and friendly venue which we will consider using again next year.

## KidsArt

The Primary Kids art exhibition in October last year featured 750 works from 18 regional schools. It was a magnificent exhibition!



We are seeking new volunteers to co-ordinate and run this exhibition in 2009. This is a great opportunity to get involved and gain experience with the support of past event organisers. If you have kids at Primary school and would be interested we'd love to hear from you

## Dates & Events



### 3 STORIES ARTSPACE

505 Maroondah Hwy Healesville 5962 5688

March 28– May 30 Resurrected—an exhibition by & for people affected by the Victorian Bushfires

Friday night lectures 7-9 p.m \$15 includes coffee, tea and nibbles

April 3 Duende : Painting music and poetry

May 22 Goya —The Black Painting & Proverbs

### Regional Museum

The launch of the next round of Closet Collectors opens on Wednesday 27th May. Collections include brilliantly coloured anodised aluminium ware, nintendos from the eighties, cigar boxes, and ceramic wall ducks. collections can be viewed at:

Burrinja Mooroolbark Community Centre

Lilydale Library Mt Evelyn Library

Healesville Memorial Hall Upper Yarra Arts Centre

Yarra Junction Library Belgrave Library

### Yering Station Art Gallery:

A textile exhibition by Felicity & Marion Matthews, *Different Directions – Two Sisters, Making was very much a part of our life.* 20 March – 26 April.

### Mooroolbark Community Centre & Montrose Town Centre Intensive workshops April to June 2009

The intensive workshop series is a stimulating program, designed to inspire exploration across all artistic disciplines. Whether you are just beginning and looking to try something different or seeking new inspiration and refinement of your craft, these one off workshops are not to be missed.

### Creative Capers For Kids - School Holiday Program

6<sup>th</sup> April – 17<sup>th</sup> April 2009

Mooroolbark Community Centre & Montrose Town Centre

The April School Holidays is set to go off with heaps of activities for kids to enjoy. There are activities to let the kids get messy, get physical, get creative and most importantly, have fun.

Art – Pottery – Music – Science – Drama – Movies – Dance - Sculpture

For more information call 9726 5488.

### PIVOT – Annual Group Exhibition

Red Earth Gallery – Mooroolbark Community Centre

Things are a bit different this year...there is no uniform canvas size. There will be a more detailed program with artist's statements...and a few other tricks. Registrations are now open and will close April 27th. The exhibition will be on show from May 14th - June 26th 2009. Get in early and avoid disappointment!

## Membership

Membership for the Yarra Valley Arts Council is \$25 full membership/\$15 concession card holders

A membership can be downloaded off our website or picked up from our office at Upstairs 5 Church St Healesville.

Membership entitles you to:

Vote at our AGM

Invitations to events

Newsletter and mailings

Discount at Summer School

4 free listing on our website.

Speakers and talks

Film Showings

We are working on more member benefits let us know if you can help!

[www.yarravalleyarts.com](http://www.yarravalleyarts.com)

[yvarts@live.com.au](mailto:yvarts@live.com.au)

YARRA VALLEY  
ARTS  
COUNCIL



March 2009



Jan Learmonth  
Waterholes  
Wood, metal, twine  
71 x 253 x 63 cm



Jason Waterhouse  
Mail Box  
(It's been ages since I  
got a really long letter)  
Mild Steel, enamel  
paint

### Above

IMAGES FROM 2009  
YERING STATION  
SCULPTURE  
EXHIBITION  
Held 25th October—6th Dec

## After The Bushfires

February 7th 2009 will live forever in our memories, and the ensuing weeks were a time of great grief and difficulty for anyone living in this beautiful part of the world.

Our love and support is extended to all those who lost loved ones or possessions in the fires.

Of course the difficulties don't just disappear after a major event like that and many people will be dealing with the aftermath for a long time to come.

One of the important things that was highlighted during that time was the importance of having strong connections within your community. For many people there was a feeling of great isolation, and having others to connect with was of paramount importance.

If we can all take a lesson away from that it is that when our homes and lives are threatened, it can crystallise what it is that is important to us. What is it that you packed in your

bag when you evacuated? What was the most important thoughts that went through your head? What helped to sustain you?

As we start to go through the recovery process there are ways in which the Yarra Valley Arts Council can help. Although located in Healesville we have many members and participants from surrounding regions. Some suggestions have already been made for activities and events to help in that recovery process.

So let us know what can be done to help. Some suggestions are:

- Events and activities
  - Supplies of art materials
  - Help with writing grants
  - Replacing destroyed Musical instruments
  - Keeping busy by volunteering
  - Social activities—networking
  - Opportunities to exhibit, perform, write, contribute to a larger project.
- All comments can be directed via email:

[yvarts@live.com.au](mailto:yvarts@live.com.au)

## Need Help?

If you have lost your Musical instruments in the bushfires help is available from Dandenong Ranges Music Council through the Resound Music Appeal  
Contact Bev Mc Allister on 9754 6566

If you have lost Art materials, we have been approached by an art supply company to donate art materials to anyone in need  
Ring Karen on 0400 651 130 Or email:  
[yvarts@live.com.au](mailto:yvarts@live.com.au)

## Community Grants and Grant Writing Workshops

The Shire of Yarra Ranges Community Grants Program closes on the 16th April.

These Grants represent a great opportunity to get local projects and events off the ground. The application process has been simplified and is now easy to follow.

There are three types of Grants available; Community Development, Cultural Development and Festivals and Events. If you have a project that you are seeking funding for, ring a Shire officer and chat about whether your project is eligible and what is the most suitable category to apply under.

Kaye Hart 9294 6189 Jackie Elward 9294 6386  
Karen Meuleman 9294 6385

There are other Grants to apply for and funding available if you know where to look.

The Shire is running some Grant Writing workshops in May & June this year which will help those seeking to expand their funding sources.

These are run by Jan Simmons, from Morrison House in Mt Evelyn who has successfully applied for millions of dollars over the years. She will give you guidelines and practical hints from her wealth of experience.

Sessions are:

Healesville 4th May 7- 9.30 p.m.

Yarra Junction 25th May 9.30 am—12 noon

Upwey 1st June 9.30 am—12 noon,

and an advanced workshop in

Montrose on 17th June 7-9.30 pm

For bookings & further information ring  
Jackie Elward 8284 6386

## EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR ARTISTS

Emergency assistance is available for ABN registered artists whose businesses have been directly impacted by the fires, through loss of tools of trade or through loss of business. The assistance package comprises:

A one-off grant of up to \$5,000 for immediate repair and restoration costs, with additional funds available up to a total of \$25,000 for eligible businesses with significant damage. Free access to professional business advice and counselling services. A low-cost loan scheme through the Rural Finance Corporation.

Further information is available from [Business Victoria](http://www.business.vic.gov.au)

### USEFUL WEBSITES

[www.ourcommunity.com.au](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au) <http://www.grants.dvc.vic.gov.au/> <http://www.grantslink.gov.au/>

[www.acmi.net.au](http://www.acmi.net.au) [www.healesvillelabyrinth.org.au](http://www.healesvillelabyrinth.org.au) [www.craftvic.asn.au](http://www.craftvic.asn.au)

## Lessons we Learn from Geese

Consider what science has discovered as to why geese fly the way they do when they migrate:

**Fact One** As each goose flaps its wings it creates an uplifting for the birds that follow. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew alone.

**Lesson:** People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are travelling on the thrust of one another.

**Fact Two** When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as a Goose we stay in formation with those heading where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others

**Fact Three** When the lead goose tires, it

rotates back into the formation and another goose flies to the point position

**Lesson:** It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing the leadership. As with geese, people are interdependent on each other's skills, capabilities and unique arrangements of gifts, talent or resources

**Fact Four** The geese flying in formation honk to encourage those up front to keep up their speed

**Lesson:** We need to make sure honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement the production is much greater. The power of encouragement (to stand by one's heart or core values and encourage the heart and core of others) is the equality of honking we seek.

**Fact Five** When a goose gets sick, wounded, or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Then, they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

*Author Unknown*



### Local Icons capture Local Icons

Nan and Adrian Francis have just released their book entitled "The Yarra Valley" at a well attended launch in Healesville on Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>. The book is a selection of beautiful photographs that documents the many and varied aspects of life in the Yarra Valley. Both keen photographers, and with a passion for the landscape and people of the region, this book represents hundreds of hours of work and a keen eye for the iconic subjects that give the Yarra Valley its distinctive personality.

The book is available in Healesville at the Tourist centre, Newsagent, Innocent Bystander and Tarrawarra Museum of Art. In Yarra Glen at the Newsagent and Shrinking Violets. In Yarra Junction at Cafe d'huit and in Warburton at the bookshop and Patchwork House.

Nan and Adrian are donating \$10 from every book sale to the Bushfire relief and have already been able to provide valuable assistance in that area.

Congratulations to Nan and Adrian for producing such a valuable visual document of life in the Yarra Valley.

### A snippet of "Life on Elcho" - Ruth Woods

In September last year, Tony and myself started a new job on Elcho Island a remote island in north East Arnhem land. We are working with the Yolngu, Indigenous people, from this region in the town of Galiwinku. There are approximately 2000 Yolngu people and 120 Balanda, non indigenous people.

Tony's role is Barge Services and mine is to develop businesses to create sustainable jobs for the Yolngu people. My main focus over the past three months has been working with the arts centre, along with Dion Teasdale, who some of you might know from the Shire in Arts, Culture and Heritage. We have been working to create some positive changes and a couple of the projects have been introducing printmaking to the artists and to market the beautiful baskets produced in the area.

#### The Print-workshop

A printmaker from Darwin visited the island for a week to assist the artists to create woodblock prints using their totems as a theme. There were about ten artists who quickly picked up the skills and developed some really interesting pieces of artwork. Over the week they produced over 100 three colour prints of exceptional quality. We sold over half of them straight away to locals on the island. The artists have been invited to exhibit in a top gallery in Darwin, Sydney and London.

#### Basket Weaving

While working at the arts centre, I have become very fond of the women who create the pandanas baskets. They pick the grass, strip, dry, dye and finally weave the baskets which come in all different shapes and sizes. Each community has its own style and we visited one of these communities to buy baskets for the arts centre.

When we arrived the ladies had all their work displayed beautifully on the veranda for us to see. It was a wonderful day talking with all the wonderful weavers, such a lovely welcoming group of women. We bought 30 baskets for the arts centre and have sold about 20 of them already.



## HEALESVILLE LABYRINTH PROJECT

### The Healesville Labyrinth project has taken on a new meaning in the aftermath of the fires

The Community Labyrinth Project has a great deal of support from all sections of the community, and will create a beautiful space for people to relax, gather together & celebrate special events, as well as to use for spiritual reflection and meditation. Community participation, interaction & connectedness in creating and developing the project has been a major feature. Some say that our community needs the labyrinth now, and more than ever. All the people that have spoken to the project co-ordinators, including those who have suffered tragic losses through the fires, are adamant that our community needs to make this project happen NOW.

Currently funding is being applied for through DPCD to complete the labyrinth itself, the rain garden, seating, community artworks and the associated landscaping.

If you would like to be involved in this project, please contact Merran Macs on 5962 2388

**We need your contributions ! Please submit articles and updates for the next newsletter!  
Contact Karen for more details 9294 6385**