



BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE NEWSLETTER June 2023

WEBSITE: www.bmcac.org.au FACEBOOK: [bmcac](#) & [bmcacsaturdaypotters](#)
INSTAGRAM [lifedrawing_glenbrook](#)

BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ART CENTRE
50th Birthday



COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US

**Art Exhibition, Art & Pottery Demonstrations,
Kids Craft Activities, Market Stalls, Sausage Sizzle, Live Music**



FRIDAY 23RD OF JUNE - 7PM OPENING
SATURDAY 24TH & SUNDAY 25TH JUNE - 10AM TO 4PM

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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CALENDAR OF BMCAC EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
Fri. 23 June to Sun. 25	50th Anniversary of the Centre
Thu. 6 July, 7.30pm	Committee Meeting
Fri. 7 July to Sun. 9	Print Prize Exhibition
Mon. 24 July to 15 Sept.	TERM 3
Fri. 22 Sept. to Sun. 24	Art Prize Exhibition
Mon. 16 Oct. to 8 Dec.	TERM 4
Fri. 20 Oct. to Sun. 22	Member's Exhibition

All happening at the Centre except Member's Exhibition at the Glenbrook Theatre Hall.

EDITOR'S NOTE

In the following please find an important statement by our Secretary on the selection of the new BMCAC logo.

OUR NEW LOGO HAS BEEN SELECTED

by Bronwyn Campbell

Thank you so much to all those who took the time to enter a logo for consideration. We understand what a difficult task it is and it was even more difficult to choose between them. They all had something appealing about them. It took some twists and turns before the committee members were able to agree on our final choice. Jesenia Bodey Lee's adaption of Alison James's original, inspired Hare St Gallery logo was the final selection. So, congratulations to Jesenia. We think our choice has given us a distinctive, easily recognisable logo that links directly to our much-loved Hare Street Gallery logo and connects The Centre immediately to our location. The logo has three versions and will be used to suit the purpose:

The Letterhead



*Timetables / Fliers
(either can be used)*



*Printing on T-shirts,
Mugs, etc.*



Enjoy our upcoming 50 Year Celebration and let me know of your ideas, projects and plans, so they can be included in 'Creations'.

Rudi Christen
Creations' Editor
rudich7@dodo.com

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

Alison JAMES President & Workshop Coordinator 0416 957 688
Ingrid RUSSELL Vice President & Arts Director 0423 124 473
Bronwyn CAMPBELL Secretary & Pottery Facilitator 0411 041 054

arty_ali@hotmail.com.au
bmcac.mail@gmail.com
a.b.campbell@optusnet.com.au

Calling all members past and present!

We are celebrating our 50th Birthday!! What a wonderful achievement!!

We will be holding our birthday celebrations on the 23rd to the 25th of June. Friday night will be the opening of a members exhibition in the main room. If you wish to participate you will need to bring your artwork to the centre on Friday the 23rd, between 9:30am to 12:30pm.

Make sure everything is labelled and you have a catalogue to provide us with for sales. If you wish to have your own table outside you will need to be prepared to man it yourself each day.

Celebrations will continue over the weekend with demonstrations, some live music and sausage sizzle lunches available.

Let's make it a successful celebration by all participating and showing your love for the Centre with your family and friends.

Also coming up very quickly is our biennial Print Prize on the 7th to 9th of July. Entries are currently open, don't miss out!

Keep an eye out for a couple of new features that will be popping up in the garden this month. A new fish 'Punky Bluester' has already made an appearance.

Keep warm and keep creating!!

Your President

For me drawing is the basis, the underpinning, the compost, if you like, for all the visual arts. Its difficulties lie not in the hand or eye, but with the self-conscious mind. Sadly, by adulthood most of us have censored out nine-tenths of the visual world (Don't stare child!) and contend ourselves by seeing only what we "know" to be there. While in actual fact men and women, flowers, dogs, and hats, look far more curious, strange and wonderful, than we have permitted ourselves to believe. So it is with visual curiosity I would like to approach the world and have my work in its several forms so approached.

Anne Wienholt 2004

Her drawings (1920 - 2018) are on show until 1 July
at the Robin Gibson Gallery, 278 Liverpool Street, Darlinghurst.

Jeannie McInnes, David Attwood and I spent a day cleaning up the area between the storeroom and the kiln room recently and did some further tidying up in the storeroom. It was a huge load for David to take to the tip, so thank you so much to both of you. David will soon imbed our new wedging table in cement behind the kiln room and give it a new weatherproof top. Although it is outside and will be a bit chilly in winter, it will be a much better surface to wedge on, as the tables in the pottery room are not ideal for wedging.

Our store of batts seems to be dwindling quite a bit. If you have borrowed some could you please return them. I am intending to buy a couple of batt mates to keep in the pottery room for throwers to use – they will not be to borrow. We are happy that one alphabet set has been located, thank you, and we look forward to the second one being returned.

I would like to encourage you all to enter pots in the **Penrith Show**. Please take the time to read the details about when to drop off work. Sadly, last year the numbers were down and if we don't support it, the Show Committee may discontinue the competition which would be very sad because it is a good way to introduce our art and craft to the public and it gives us an outlet to advertise our Centre. First and second prizes are awarded in each category (in the past \$75, \$25). The BMCAC sponsors some of the prizes. The Penrith City Council awards an overall winning prize of \$200.

The following is the list of sections you may consider entering:

- Beginners (having only 12 months experience)
- Open Thrown
- Functional set
- Hand building
- Low fired

POTTERY HINT OF THE MONTH: How to make your own underglazes

Buy powdered underglazes from your pottery supplier

Measure the stain with frit 4124 and bentonite by volume as follows:

- 1xBentonite
- 1x Frit 4124
- 2x stain

The stain is the colour, bentonite keeps it in suspension, frit fuses the colour to the pot.

Mix dry ingredients add water to create a creamy consistency. It will be lumpy, leave for an hour or so and then sieve through 100 mesh sieve. Put into an airtight container. You may need to add a little more water later as bentonite absorbs the water.

When washing utensils in a clean bowl of water allow underglaze to settle, pour off water and tip colour into a container. Save all colours together and use later.

EXCEPTION: Royal Blue is a very strong stain – use the 3 ingredients in equal proportions.

Advantages: It can be painted on raw or bisque pots, mixed with other colours, it can be watered down and painted over a glaze. It is much cheaper.

Thickness matters: Too thick on top of a glaze, it will be crusty. Too thin under a glaze it will burn away and be streaky. TEST.

From "*Collected Wisdom*" 50 years of Handy Hints Ceramic Study Group Aust.

The printmaking studio is very active with the Monday morning classes and people staying after the classes during the open access time. Due to a Monday falling on a public holiday an extra week got added to this course when it finishes.

The Exploring Acrylic Painting group has now commenced but will finish later than other classes due to a number of classes that had to be rescheduled. The 8-week course will now finish 21 July. I have discussed with Ingrid these changes.

A couple of requests I have concerning the print studio:

Since it is stated on a notice of the studio door that a maximum of three people can be in the print studio I'm wondering whether we could relocate the two stacks of green/blue chairs and the wooden drawing horse to the store. I know that Jeannie and the team cleaned up the storeroom, but it would make a huge difference to us if they could be moved out of the studio as it affects the artists' working and movement at the press when it is in motion.

Also, Janet Saunders' father passed away who was an artist and she has donated a light table on a stand which can be more functional in that space for printmakers but we are happy for other people at the centre to use it.

I also have put my new exposure unit as a long term loan in the pent studio which means we can now use it to expose light sensitive plates for solar plate etching. Jeannie got to use it the other day.

As mentioned at the previous meeting I will also be removing some unwanted items in the studio to make sure there is not too much clutter and to ensure easy movement as safety issues are a priority.

Thank you
Cheryle Yin Lo
Mobile 0407409445

OTHER REPORTS

Grants Officer's Report:

No news at this time. We are yet to hear if our "Volunteer Grant" has been successful.

Head Gardener's Report:

The mowing and tidying up continues but with some trimming as well to prepare for the new growth in spring. Watering the garden is now needed due to a lack of recent rain. So any help with watering would be appreciated. We have a sprinkler in the storeroom to save time. Also, mulching would help with retaining moisture.

Building Co-ordinator's Report:

Cleaning and painting yurts is on the agenda. Contact David 0477028996 if you are able to help. Friday is his usual work day.

GENERAL BUSINESS

50th ANNIVERSARY

Some of the events planned include:

- Exhibition of art and pottery in the main room as well as open gallery.
- Pottery and print making demonstrations
- For Children:
Drawing with life-model Sally, as Chun-Li from 'Street Fighter', face painting and clay play.
- Fire pit at night
- Music and poetry reading.



PENRITH SHOW SATURDAY 26TH AND SUNDAY 27TH AUGUST

Art: to be delivered on the Friday 11th August between 9am – 1pm, Administration Office Level

Pottery: to be delivered on Sunday the 13th August between 9am -1pm, Sky Lounge, Level 2.

Judging all categories: Wednesday 16th August

Presentation of Awards: 3PM Saturday 26th August.

MOSAIC WALL Andrea showed us her mural in progress. Plans to display at the 50th anniversary and demonstrate work in progress if unfinished by the 50th anniversary.

WHEEL CHAIR ACCESS was discussed. There will be further investigation into easier access for electric wheel chairs.

MOULD in PRINT ROOM has been cleaned. I is planned for a professional roofer to inspect the roof.

PROFESSIONAL SIGNS for our EXHIBITIONS. Alison will look into accessing more of these.

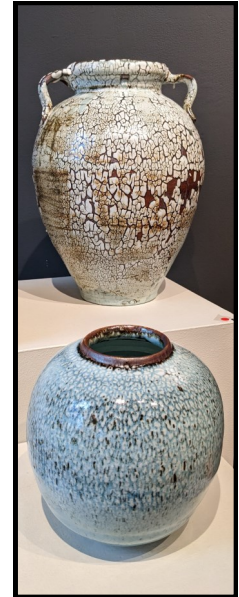


Simone Fraser
Clay, dry glaze, 3 firings



TERRA NOVA GALLERY VISIT

By Bronwyn Campbell – pottery details taken from gallery pamphlets.



Simon Bowley

Recently a friend and I visited the “Terra Nova” exhibition at the Sturt Gallery, Cnr Range Rd & Waverly Pde, Mittagong. What a lovely, tranquil place it is to visit.

The exhibition celebrates 70 years of Australia’s pioneering pottery and features some of Australia’s most loved and celebrated potters, all of whom have lived worked and taught at Sturt over those many years. The exhibition continues until July 16. Check out the Sturt website @sturtgalleryandstudios for more details

The exhibition ranged from delicate hand thrown, porcelain pieces of Steve Harrison to rugged, chunky hand built pieces of Paul Davis.

As well as the exhibition there is a shop area chock full of great affordable pottery, beautiful jewellery, and other crafts. A small coffee shop within the gallery provided us with a delicious light lunch followed by hot chocolate for afternoon tea. Chocolate ganache may have been involved.

Below are only some of the spectacular pots on display. We came away totally inspired and eager to get our hands into some clay. If you can, please take the opportunity to visit.



Steven Harrison: Chinese sericite single stone porcelain with home made cobalt pigments. (1,3,4) Steve experienced the terrible fires of 2019/2020. He lost his studio. The account of his harrowing ordeal during that time can be found on the internet. Flames dance around the bottom of his bowls. The titles of his pots reflect that terrible time.

Two examples:

“Strange Tales of Unknown Places, or Flight or Fight are meaningless concepts to an earth worm.”

“The Conflict of Inner Nature and Vital Force, or is that burning hair I can smell.”



Sandy Lockwood: Woodfired and salt glazed



Alison Milyika: Thrown white stoneware, underglaze



3 Left: **Jann Kesby** : Native Clay, feldspathic and natural ash glaze, Woodfired
 2 Right **Steve Williams** Wheel thrown, cut/folded woodash/shino



Simon Bowley

Susie McMeekin



Greg Daly Lustre glazes with gold and silver leaf decoration



Paul Davis: Rice ash glaze Kohiki clay

THE GUEST EXPULSED 3

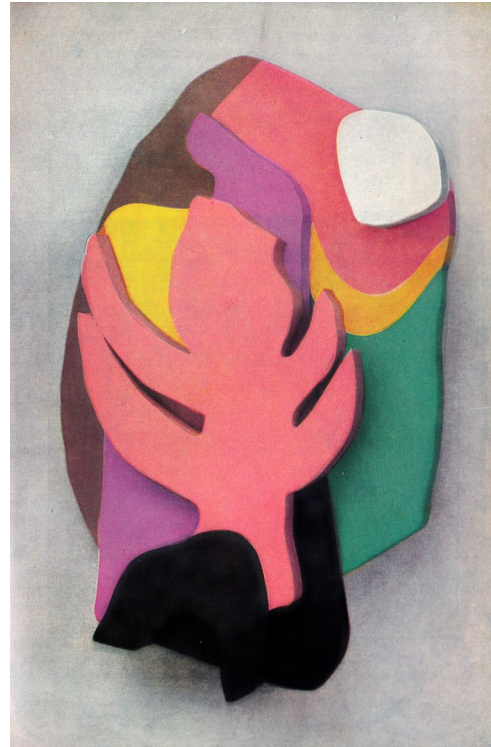
Jean Arp (1886—1966) *

*Gravestones I carry on my head.
From water-bearing mortal clay
I cast offending Adam out
- To pass the time – twelve times a day.*

*Standing in light up to the hilt,
I leap out through my mouth perforce
And, carrying owls to Athens town,
Harness myself before my horse.*

*Farewell a hund-and katzen-fold.
In line with Time's polarity
I follow in disguise, lead-glazed,
The Spirit of hilarity.*

*I mingle camphor of my own
In with the elder-pith of Time,
And into all eternity
Innards and upwards still I climb.*



Jean Arp, Forest, 1916, painted wood, 32 x 21 cm.

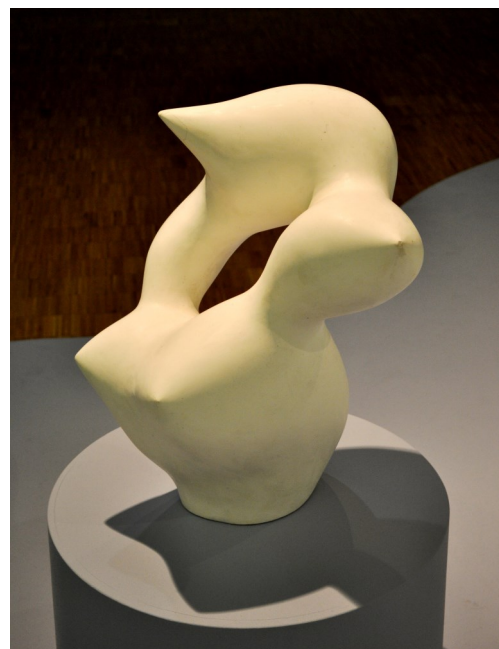
THE GUEST EXPULSED 5

*Their rubber hammer strikes the sea
Down the black general so brave.
With silken braid they deck him out
As fifth wheel on the common grave.*

*All striped in yellow with the tides
They decorate his firmament.
The epaulettes they then construct
Of June July and wet cement.*

*With many limbs the portrait group
They lift on to the Dadadado;
They nail their A B seizures up;
Who numbers the compartments? They do.*

*They dye themselves with blue-bag then
And go as rivers from the land,
With candied fruit along the stream,
An Oriflamme in every hand.*



Jean Arp, Couronne de bourgeois II, plaster, 1936, 52 x 42,5 x 42 cm

*) Jean (Hans) Arp was one of the prime instigators of the DADA movement during WW I. He is now mostly known as a sculptor. But interviewed in his mature years when he was asked which of his many modes of expression defined him best he replied: "My poetry". Here one needs to add perhaps that he defined his collages as poetry by plastic means.

WHAT'S ON ?

Workshops, Galleries, Exhibitions, Prize Entries, Coming Events

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BLUE MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTRE

30 Parke Street, Katoomba 2780

Gallery and Shop: Monday – Friday 10am – 5pm, Saturday + Sunday – 10am – 4pm

[Ida Jaroš and Bette Mifsud: Shifting Screens - Blue Mountains Cultural Centre](#) 24 June – 14 August

[ARTEXPRESS - Blue Mountains Cultural Centre](#) 27 May – 16 July

BRAEMER HOUSE & GALLERY

104 Macquarie Road, Springwood 2777

Opening Hours

Thursday – Sunday | 10am – 4pm

[Braemar House & Gallery - Blue Mountains Cultural Centre](#) | [Blue Mountains Cultural Centre](#)

8th June to 2nd July

Paul Rhodes, Annette Coulter, Jo Davies, Clare Delaney, Tim Newman and Martin Roberts

Tipping Points

PENRITH REGIONAL GALLERY

86 River Road, Emu Plains

The Gallery is open daily from 10am – 3.45pm

[Penrith Regional Gallery - home of the Lewers Bequest.](#)

[Jeannie Baker: Desert Jungle - Penrith Regional Gallery](#)

until 9 July

[Penrith Regional Gallery Youth Art Prize - Penrith Regional Gallery](#)

until 16 July



ART OF
JOY MYERS CREED & AM BATEMAN

Reflecting



SUGGESTION



ART EXHIBITION INVITE
THE WATCH HOUSE | BALMAIN

| OPENING NIGHT |
FRIDAY 30TH JUNE 6.00PM - 9.00PM

| OPENING TIMES |
10.00 - 6.00PM
SATURDAY 1ST & SUNDAY 2ND JULY
179 DARLING STREET, BALMAIN NSW 2041

Enquiries & RSVP | Ann-Marie 0412127966 | Joy Myers Creed 0422088741
www.balmainassociation.org.au | www.offthepathartstudio.net
ambateman@offthepathartstudio.com

Solo Art Exhibition
LISA KENNEDY



 **WOTSO**

**A WOTSO PYRMONT
COLLABORATION**

**BULWARA STREET LOBBY
55 PYRMONT BRIDGE RD,
PYRMONT NSW 2009**

EXHIBITION OPEN

22 APRIL - 14
JULY '23



*Exhibition
Catalogue
+ Shop*



Courtesy of Nationwide Curating
www.nationwidecurating.com
Rotating-Exhibition Services
info@nationwidecurating.com
Ph: 0432 470 231

