

Montague Art and Craft Society Inc

December 2020

Newsletter

President's Report



**Happy Christmas
wishes to you and
your families**

**May the 2021
New Year be good
to you.**

There will not be a
January Newsletter,
however notices, as
and when needed, will
still go out.

January the 1st is the day when all MACS
Memberships fall due for renewal.

You will find a form with this Newsletter for you
to renew. Please print and fill it out then take it to
the Visitor Centre for payment. We need the
forms filled out with your contact details and
permission to have your photo published to make
sure we have current details.

You can also download the form from MACS web
site

We abide by Privacy Laws and it is necessary for
you to tell us if you do not want your image to
appear in this Newsletter. or published anywhere
else.

Privacy of Personal Information is something we
value highly, however, occasionally you may be
part of an exhibition and need to be contacted by
the coordinators directly, instead of through our
MACS mailing list.

It is the responsibility of the organisers to erase
your personal details from their records once that
event is complete and all details wrapped up. All
information is held in trust if you have any
concerns about this please let me know directly to
colandkris@gmail.com or 0429 806939



The Christmas Party will be held outdoors at
Mountain View Farm in Tilba Tilba. Please come
along if you can. COVID guidelines will be in
place.

The date is Sunday December 13th and the time 4
pm.

Any questions please email
macsartnarooma@gmail.com

The new flooring for the Studio is well underway
and we have the materials and a builder to install
it, now all we need is for you to be part of a
Working Bee to move furniture and equipment to
Building 2 before the work can start.

No, you don't have to pick up the carpet, that is
already taken care of. We just need to clear the
room so the work can start.

Working Bee to:

Remove everything from the Studio and store in
Building 2

MEET: Saturday 5th December 9:00 am
at Studio

Please bring any covers you have, garbage bags,
plastic tubs, etc to keep equipment sorted and
dust free.

The flooring work will commence Monday and is expected to finish on Wednesday.

Which means everything goes back on Thursday, if you can spare some time please and if someone from each Studio group could oversee moving items, that would be helpful.

Please contact Jude Thompson to confirm you can help and are available. juthom52@gmail.com
Or email to macsartnarooma@gmail.com

The Studio will be closed Monday to Wednesday the 7th – 9th December.

We had an interesting meeting with SHASA on 16th November. The organisation has applied for and received a grant under the Snow Foundation Grant Regional Renewal which aims to help Community Organisations such as ourselves.

The aim is to help by improving our knowledge and to help Committee members with the day to day admin tasks of running an organisation.

The meeting was attended by MACS Committee members and Studio Coordinators.

When asked what needs we have, we said one of our greater needs was to have more basic skills with technology. One example cited related to members not being sure how to attach images to emails when applying to enter Exhibitions. Not everyone has a smart phone.

MACS members overall skills are good as over 95% of our members use email for communication, so we have a good foundation to base further learning on.

Any classes will not start until the New Year which gives us more time to say what we need. I am not sure how many people are able to use online banking confidently. Something which has become much more important as Bank Branches close.

Please let us know what you need.

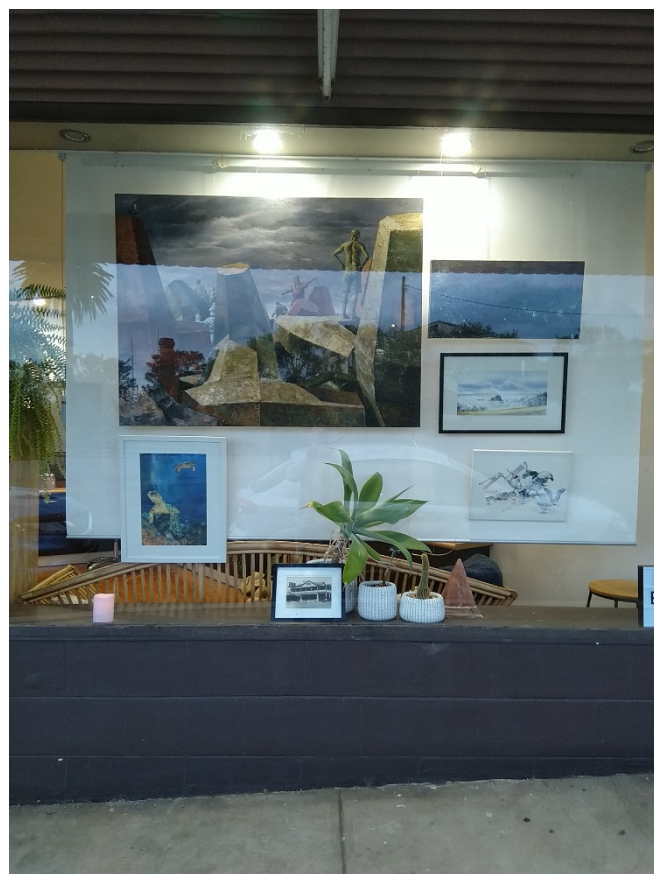
Council met on Tuesday 24th November and Alison presented the case for continued Community use of the Narooma Visitor Information Centre. All other community presentations were from Batemans Bay regarding their Community Centre.

Thanks to Alison for representing Narooma.

We are not sure how long it will take before we hear of any decision but will let you know.

Mitre 10 is still closed and there is no news as to when it might open again.

For all of you waiting to retrieve your artwork I really don't know how we might get a definitive date until all investigations are finished. I guess the positive side is that at least it is still on display and looking good.



Hair Room window (before the fire)

Great news and thanks to MACS Insurance Brokers Elders for pursuing our Insurance claim for artwork lost in the Hair Room fire. A great result for our members and very welcome just before Christmas

Christmas wishes

Kris

NAROOMA VISITOR CENTRE REPORT (VIC)

Visitor numbers continue to be steadily increasing, except on rainy days. This seems to indicate that most of the travellers to the region are travelling spontaneously, and just for a few days at a time.

The silver lining to the COVID restrictions is definitely the increase in regional tourism. It will be interesting to see if there's much change when the Victorian border opens.

Another lovely thing to witness is the delight that people are finding within their own state; the pleasure they get from re-discovering an area within a few hours of their home.

Sales of MACS art continues to increase as well. Maybe that's also partly due to the fact that people can take things back to their homes that aren't too far away?

Pre-Christmas spending seems to be healthy, and quite a few people are buying themselves rewards for dealing with a really difficult year.

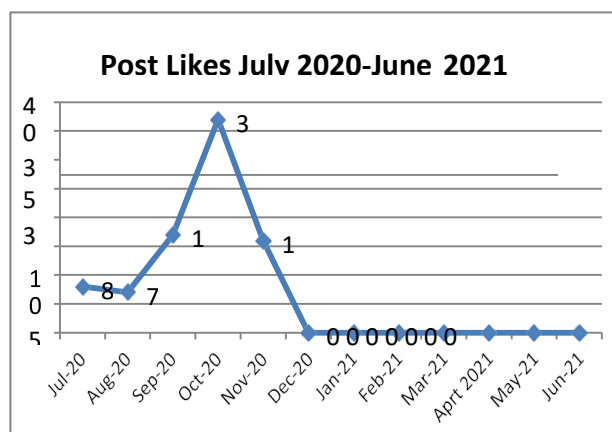
Looking ahead to what's shaping up to be a bumper holiday season we are still seeking an hour or two here and there from any MACS members who are able to volunteer some of their time in the visitor centre.

We are operating within a COVID-safe framework, visitors are au fait with the sign-in protocols and very respectful of distancing measures

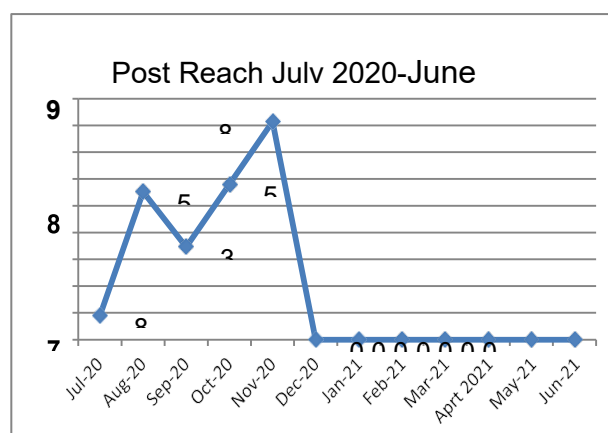
Best Regards
Lisa



Facebook Stats



October/November 2020



MACS Facebook Page

Thanks Gilly for your work on this as you can see by this report there was some increased activity on the MACS Facebook page. We made it over the 600 mark and have 603 likes currently. That is a lot of people who are interested in what we do.

COVID has not made it easy to keep on going but thanks to our wonderful coordinators, programs have kept going and delivering.

Please let us share what we do and send images of your work to our lovely Secretary and Facebook lady Gilly Kearney at gillykau@gmail.com so she can share with our very interested followers.

If you don't want to put your face online, then just samples of your work would be lovely.

Please promote MACS by sending in photos of your work or events to Gilly or to macsartnarooma@gmail.com



MACS STUDIOS –What's On

Workshop Convener: Jude Thompson

No Workshops are planned before Christmas. This is due to proposed work in the Studio. Clearing the furniture/carpet, fitting the new floor and returning said furniture, with new flooring under.

January 2021 there will be no Leadlighting work group, but with Thursday all day and Saturday mornings booked for children's workshops, it is unlikely I can arrange for any workshops for members on the Mondays.

Will update all members if this changes.

Alison has worked her magic again, and we are shortlisted for a grant that may make 11 workshops for children available to local children – those whose families have been impacted by the bushfires. Please note the need for membership backup for the tutors!!

Here is the Summary:

Project Name: Bush Telegraph: Children's Holiday Arts and Information Program

The proposed activity is a series of ten, half-day art and craft workshops for children in Years 3 – 6 of Primary Schools from Bodalla. Tilba. Narooma and Bermagui. Each workshop will have ten participants.

They will be held in summer school holidays at the MACS Studio on Glasshouse Rocks Road, Narooma, Workshops will be run by local artists and will feature a range of subjects such as drawing, painting, drama, ceramics and mosaics. The artists will be assisted by MACS volunteers.

At the completion of the workshops, greeting card packs will be produced which will feature photographs of the artworks/activities and contain information about local bushfire-specific support and mental health services on the back. These will be given to all participant families.

Cards can also be distributed at Bega and Eurobodalla Bushfire Recovery Support Service outlets, and through other local bushfire recovery events. A partnership with the Narooma Visitor Information Centre will allow further distribution of the cards. The VIC will also be able to promote the availability of bushfire and mental health support services in the Narooma area.

For the New Year, we have a number of proposed workshops in oil painting, beginners leadlighting and print making. That's before we consider possible mixed media and polymer clay! Hopefully, folk will understand that our COVID 19 program of control is even more than required by the State Community Organisation's Safety Rules.



Congratulations Alison and Jude

Here is Alison showing Jude the email she received to let MACS know the Grant for the School Holiday Program was approved.



STUDIO

Mondays

Stained Glass (Leadlighting) Group

Tuesdays

Textiles in Studio with Judy Glover
En Plein Air with Marg Moran

Wednesdays

Mosaics & Ceramics with Judy Gordon

Thursdays

My Art Group with Jude Thompson
Thursday group meets until breaking for Christmas. We go with different plans for the day and enjoy a bit of a chat besides. Feel free to join us.

Fridays

Life Drawing with Janet Jones 10:00 till noon
Could drawers please arrive in plenty of time to set up, so there is no interruption to the initial short poses.
Fees; \$15 members, \$18 non-members plus \$3 for MACS - to cover tea, coffee, milk, heating etc.

contact for information on groups
email: macsartnarooma@gmail.com

Children's Holiday Workshops January 2021



Textiles in Studio with Judy Glover



CAN YOU HELP?

The purpose of the program is to;

- help with the healing of those whose families have been impacted by the bushfires;
- help those impacted by the fires to know about services available to them;
- provide opportunities for children impacted by the fires to find a creative outlet for feelings.

Having secured a grant for this project, we need our MACS members as:

- * volunteers to be workshop leaders in a field of their own expertise and suitable for primary children.
- * volunteers to remain in the studio for the duration of each workshop and assist the tutor with the tasks and supervision of the children.

* volunteers who might just help with setting up/cleaning up after.

* volunteers to help with the photography, printing and distribution of the cards made from the workshop images.

* a volunteer to speak on local radio to advertise the program.

The number of children per workshop is limited to 12 by the terms of the grant, but may be fewer depending on enrolments.

As well, due to the nature of the grant, COVID restrictions are lifted to an extent. However, parents will not be allowed in the studio until the end of each workshop to limit exposure. They will then be welcome to view and photograph their own children in the space along with their work.

- The results of each workshop will be photographed and printed as greeting cards that will have Bushfire Recovery service opportunities on the back.

- Each workshop will be for the duration of at least two hours. Thursday mornings and afternoons and Saturday mornings are the days set aside for these workshops.



The My Art World/painting group has generously donated their Thursday morning ritual for this purpose.

Donation of Colourful magazines appreciated suitable for children.

***The workshops confirmed thus far are in the following artistic areas:

- * drama
- * printing

We are hoping to confirm mosaics, weaving and polymer clay or airdry clay modelling.

Tutors are needed for

- * painting and drawing

If you have something you'd like to suggest other than these, please be in touch soon. The entire plan has been put into place in extremely limited time and we hope to reach as many children as possible.

The fee paid to each tutor will be a flat payment of \$200. Materials needed will be provided by the grant.



This is a great opportunity for MACS to publicise our studio and services to our local community.

The project is community based, supporting local tutors and families both.

Please help us if you can by being involved. The sense of community will be enhanced for everyone!

Jude Thompson
0428623213



MACS 2020 - 2021 Executive Committee

Left to Right: President/Treasurer Kris Macauley AM, Vice President 2 Julie Hartley, Vice President 1 Judy Glover and Secretary Gilly Kearney

Thanks Rosy for the photo, really nice one. I think this Newsletter would be very bland without your wonderful images.



MACS Featured Artist of the month, in her own words: Judith De Smeth.

"After moving to Narooma in 1997, I was inspired by the scenery to take up painting and was introduced through MACS to the well-known local artist Myra Neddrie Bunt, who then tutored me in watercolour.

I have had some success with my paintings including an exhibition called 'Molong Memories', depicting scenes from my childhood out in the Central West of NSW near Orange. The pleasure I have when painting is enhanced by the generosity and encouragement offered by the artists around me. "

You can see Judith's work on display at the Narooma Visitor Information Centre, her series of Lighthouses are beautiful and many have found a new home with appreciative buyers (editor note).

The thanks of all MACS members goes out to Judith De Smeth who works with Marg Moran each Friday to organise and display the art and craft work for Sale at the Narooma Visitor Information Centre.



Judith is also a keen member of the plein air group who meet each Tuesday morning at various local venues to share ideas and interpret the great outdoors.

Judith wants to encourage all members to just come along with easels and paints and give it a try too!

Judith's watercolour of the Bodalla Pub now hangs proudly on a wall inside the Pub, due to the owner's enthusiasm for her work! (Rosy)



Little Drom by Judith De Smeth

Article by Rosy Williams on behalf of MACS published as a letter to the Editor in the Narooma News November 4, 2020

MACS Tender to Expire

Montague Art & Craft Society is announcing that their tender to run the Narooma Visitor Information Centre will end in May, 2021. MACS has been administering this service to the travelling public since May 2016, having taken over from the Eurobodalla Council who ran it for many years.

Over these years, this information centre gave many visitors a clear insight into the historical

and cultural hinterland of this area and the friendly service from staff and also local volunteers, made a lasting impression on travellers who often returned to Narooma many times. This centre fills one half of the special public building near the town round-about which also houses the Historical Museum and was purpose-built to hold the original lens and workings from the Montague Island Lighthouse.

The joint uses of travel information, local art displays and a historical museum are a perfect fit and locals and tourists alike are encouraged to drop by for a look at this interesting public space.

Christmas Gift Ideas



Support our local artists and delight your family and friends with these original works of art and craft. Christmas Gift Suggestions from MACS Art & Craft Artisans, please support all your local artists showing at the VIC Gallery.

Apologies to those artists who display at the VIC but do not happen to be shown here at this time.

We appreciate all of our MACS artists!

(images and words by Rosy)

Stunning 2021 South Coast Calendars are available and only need a Christmas card or tag by our paper artist Rachel McInnes to make it a perfect gift for friends!



Helen Forrer's scenic trays shown here, along with other art works, combine artistry and practicality in a gift given for Christmas.

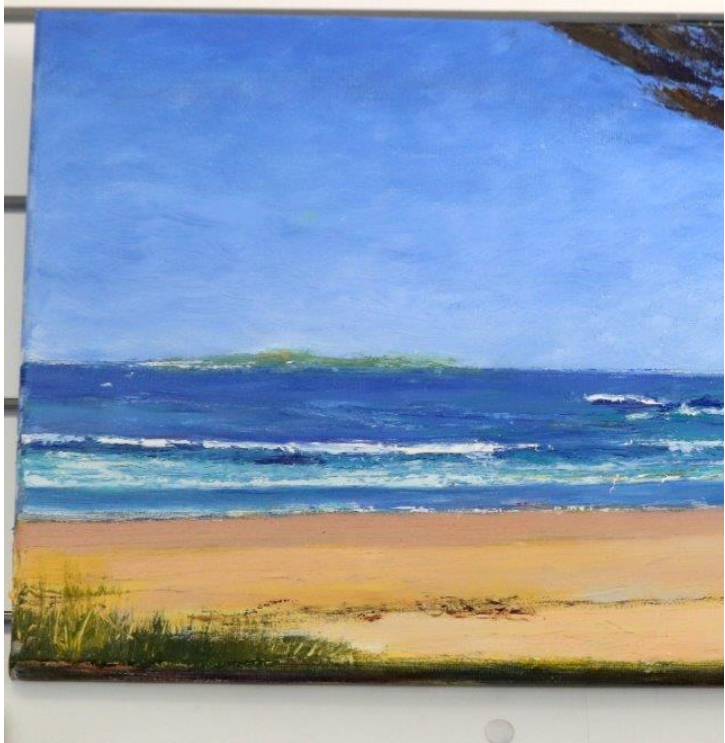


Local views combined in practical items like Aileen Maloney's linen tea towels or photo cards by Karen Kruger, the perfect complement to your Christmas giving.





Story art by Alison Walker and unique Jewellery art are displayed on the Gallery walls and will appeal to discerning buyers.



Local scenes like this "From Kianga" by Val Tippins would remind many friends of their holiday trips to the Nature Coast.

Current Information about COVID-19

- Southern NSW Local Health District: [latest announcements and media releases](#)
- Southern NSW Local Health District facebook page: [local case updates and advice](#)

- NSW Health: [Daily COVID-19 update](#)
- NSW Government: [What you can and can't do under the rules](#)

COVID information and advice

Please take your information and advice from government health authorities.

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) statistics

COVID-19 continues to circulate in the community and we must all be vigilant. To help stop the spread of COVID-19:

- If you are unwell, get tested and isolate right away – don't delay.
- Wash your hands regularly. Take hand sanitiser with you when you go out.
- Keep your distance. Leave 1.5 metres between yourself and others.
- Wear a mask on public transport, ride share, taxis, shopping, places of worship and other places where you can't physically distance. When taking taxis or rideshares, commuters should sit in the back and wear a mask.
- A full list of [COVID-19 testing clinics](#) is available or people can visit their GP.

Testing in Narooma - the Lighthouse Surgery, 80
T: 4474 1061

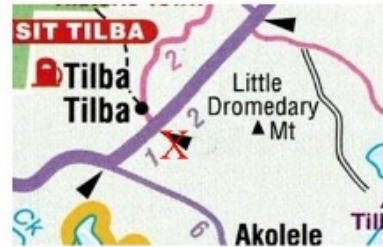


Spring 2020 2

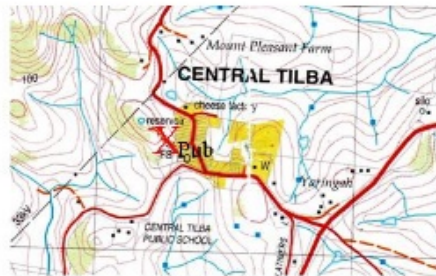
There is no set time to start and finish.

Enquiries: phone Margaret on 0427208504

October 27th & November 3rd Dibdens Dairy farm Access from Princes Highway opposite Tilba Tilba turnoff



November 10th & 17th Central Tilba Access past the pub the hill toward the water tank.



November 24th & December 1st Bogola Head Access from Princes Highway into Eurobodalla N.P. (X). Follow the dirt road east toward the coast. Plenty of parking and painting options.



December 17th & 24th Narooma Boardwalk Mill Bay end Access via Centenary Drive to the bridge end of the boardwalk.



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MACS

MACS Committee

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President	Christine Macauley
Vice President 1	Judy Glover
Vice President 2	Julie Hartley
Treasurer	Christine Kris Macauley
Secretary/Facebook Editor	Gilly Kearney
Committee Members	
Public Officer	Julie Hartley
Membership	Julie Hartley
Library & Whale Galleries	Alison Spurgeon, Viv Wood
Course Coordinator	Judith Thompson
Print Media & Photography	Rosy Williams
Newsletter, Web Page	Christine Kris Macauley
MACS Quartermaster	Judy Glover
Conveners	
Drawing & Painting	Margaret Moran
Life Drawing	Janet Jones
Mosaics	Judy Gordon
My Art World	Judith Thompson
Plein Air	Margaret Moran
Pottery	Jill Johnston
Textiles	Judy Glover
VIC Gallery Curator	Margaret Moran and Judi de Smet
Key Register	Judith Thompson
Contacts	macsartnarooma@gmail.com or 44762881
Visitor Information Centre Manager	Lisa Brown