

NOTICE OF AGM

The AGM of Narooma School of Arts & Soldiers' War Memorial Hall Inc. is on **Monday 18 March** at **5.00 pm** in the School of Arts' Studios when we will receive a full report of 2018 and elect a new committee. Several issues will also be discussed — details to come. Wine and cheese to follow. All School of Arts members are invited. We hope to see you there.

A reminder too membership fees are now due (see attached form). If you have joined since 1 October, your membership is good for 2019.

Committee progresses Centre plans

The School of Arts committee has resumed discussion with our architect ClarkeKeller to progress plans for the Narooma Arts & Community Centre (NACC).

This follows strong support from the December meeting of potential community stakeholders.

Developments since then include:

- asking ClarkeKeller to redesign the front façade, following community feedback, to be more welcoming and inspiring, reflecting the exciting design within
- approving NACC's internal spaces
- specifying that the upstairs studio would have a sprung hardwood timber floor suitable for dance classes
- seeking a team with specialist skills to



help the SOA committee make these plans for our community a reality.

Among aspects of the design still to be determined with ClarkeKeller are the external cladding and colour.

Plans for the NACC were developed over many years between the School of Arts, many artists including members of Montague Art & Craft Society (MACS) and our selected architect, with some input from Council. They were put to one side in 2015 to concentrate on the work on the Memorial Hall (Kinema).

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Book Swap Nook proves hit

A number of people have said recently how much pleasure they're getting from the great selection of books in our wonderful book nook.

Do check it out. Our Studios' group monitors the selection to keep it fresh and interesting.

Cat Wilson, right, checks out the Book Swap Nook's selection



Congratulations to John & Janette OAM

Congratulations to John and Janette Griffiths, lessees of the School of Arts Memorial Hall (Kinema), for their recent Australia Day awards.

They were recognised for their contribution to enriching the cultural life of the south coast community.

So what is the School of Arts?

Narooma is in the extraordinary position of owning and managing its own land and buildings dedicated for the Arts (School of Arts Memorial Hall /Kinema, School of Arts' Studios and the SoART Gallery), valued at about \$2.5m. They're held in trust for our community by Narooma School of Arts & Soldiers' War Memorial Hall Inc (SOA) and managed by a voluntary committee. The SOA leases the Hall (Kinema) to John, Janette and Jade Griffiths to operate as twin cinemas and as a venue for the performing arts. Recently the SOA did major work on the Hall to improve it as a venue.

It's vital our community keeps this organisation vibrant. Membership is open to everyone (voting rights limited to those living within 35km of Narooma PO). If you are not a member, please consider joining. Membership forms in the Studios, Kinema and on the webpage.

Ideas flow for Studios' arts programme for this year

Enthusiasm and many great ideas flowed at the recent brainstorm in the Studios.

The aim was to expand on the already impressive programme of activities and workshops planned for the year to cater for even wider interests.

Studios' coordinators Joy and Suzanne will try to integrate many of these new ideas into this year's programme.

Workshops already planned include an introduction to polymer clay with Anne-Marie Cape, ceramics with Marg Ingamells, pastel and hebel workshops with Nikki Hall, and several writing workshops with Rae Luckie (first starts 22 February).

A highlight will be the Fibre Fest in October.



Some of those who contributed their energy, enthusiasm and ideas to the School of Arts' 'brainstorm' on 25 January to expand the Studios' programme for 2019. Shown are: Ann Rogan, Anne McCusker, Maureen Tree, Helena Bettini, Janet Jones, Marg Hansen, Jenni Bourke, Joy Macfarlane, Uanita Martin, Cat Wilson, Marg Ingamells, Megan Fraser, Anne-Marie Cape and Geraldine Mitchell (with Flo)

School of Arts' Studios buzz

Some great classes and workshops will feature at the Studios in 2019, as well as our regular sessions. Please check the Studios' website, Studios' newsletter or Facebook page for details as they become available.

The Studios are available for casual and regular bookings by groups and individuals for arts, cultural and educational activities. They are managed by a School of Arts sub-committee.

Enquiries: Please ring Suzanne (0431 486 617) or Joy (4476 8047) or email: studios@naroomaschoolofarts.com.au.

All School of Arts members are welcome to the fun Friday Friendly (second Friday each month) for a little housekeeping plus drinks, nibbles and a chat 4 to 6pm.

The next Friday Friendly is Friday 8 February 4pm. Hope to see you there.

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The aim of everyone involved is to provide larger but flexible purpose-built arts spaces that can also be used by the wider community well into the future.

The plans include three studios/workshops/meeting rooms, a catering level kitchen, and a large exhibition gallery with high-way frontage.

EXHIBITIONS at SoART Gallery

Our boutique gallery provides a wonderful intimate space for an individual or group of artists to exhibit their work for any period of time. It is also the home of the annual River of Art Prize Exhibition.

All enquiries welcome. Several more exhibitions are under discussion.

Please see our website for more information. www.naroomaartscentre.com.au/soart-gallery-Narooma/

11-17 April: JUDY GOODWIN exhibition

EASTER 17-26 April: Collective Works of the School of Arts' Studios. Official opening Thursday 18th at 6pm

2-7 MAY : Piece by Piece exhibition by JULIE CREGH AND THE ARTFUL 9

17-27 May: RIVER OF ART — Art Prize

3-9 October: FIBRE FEST