

Crafting the Lachlan

Arts & crafts network

Newsletter 3

May 2011

Crafting the Lachlan – Meeting #3 – Monday May 16, 2011 – Condobolin Community Centre

Attending:

Bev Dawson (Craft Corner, Embroidery Guild of NSW Parkes group) – PARKES
Stephanie Brown (Embroidery Guild of NSW Parkes group) - PARKES
Alice Dunn (Condobolin Community Centre, Condobolin Arts and Crafts – President) - CONDOBOLIN
Barbara Stokes (Embroidery Guild of NSW Parkes group) - PARKES
Vad Carey (Condobolin Arts and Crafts – Secretary) - CONDOBOLIN
Joe Konrad (Lachlan Arts Council) – CONDOBOLIN
Heather Blackley (Lachlan Arts Council) – CONDOBOLIN
Alison Barker (Forbes Art Society) – FORBES
Gail (Condobolin Arts and Crafts) – CONDOBOLIN
Jane Bennie (Central West Arts Group; Kalari Lachlan River Arts Festival) – FORBES
Tracey Callian (Arts OutWest – Executive Officer)
Maryanne Jaques (Arts OutWest – Communications Officer)

Apologies:

Elaine Imrie – PARKES
Dos King – PARKES
Pam Thompson – PARKES
Norma Cairns – LAKE CARGELLIGO
Rose Brigden – LAKE CARGELLIGO
Dorothy Lincoln – PEAK HILL
Margaret Tanner – PARKES

Issues raised in the room whip around:

- Ageing membership
- Difficulties of getting active members, members often ill
- Need more space for exhibitions
- Lack of helpers for hanging exhibitions (able to climb ladders etc)
- Working with young kids, finding activities to engage young kids
- Communication

Highlights from groups represented:

- Condobolin Arts and Crafts have an art show coming up 2nd week of October. Entry forms are out now.
- Lachlan Arts Council have been running a Saturday beginners art group. Have purchased easels for use.
- Forbes Art Society, a fairly new group,
 - o Have developed a current program for the year including monthly exhibitions (not just painting).



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- Will hold a wood art exhibition with visiting Blue Mountains Woodworkers Association (May 20-27)
- Have set up a 'FOGS', Friends of the Gallery (in hope that a gallery space will be available soon.
- The Forbes Shire Council are working with Forbes Art Group re possible gallery space.
- Photography exhibition in August.
- Textiles exhibition in July.
- Also will run workshops alongside many of the exhibitions.
- Major painting exhibition at the end of the year.
- Communication out to other groups and areas a main focus/ challenge.
- Embroiders Guild Parkes
 - Exhibition in Forbes in July (with the Forbes Art Society)
 - Will run a workshop on the 'quite' days (Tuesday and Wednesday July 26 and 27). Workshop in Casalguidi (pronounced 'cassel-gueedi)
 - Group meets 3 times per month
 - Again membership numbers always a concern
- Central West Arts Group
 - Have been running monthly book making and book binding workshops at the Templar Street Art Space. About 16 people regularly coming along.
 - Group is an informal group of people from about the region. Don't have regular meeting dates.
 - Looking for non-traditional exhibition spaces eg. Shops and other publically visible venues (see the 'Empty Spaces' model)
- Kalari- Lachlan River Arts Festival (Sept 2011). Jane Bennie gave overview of the festival and how it will work, themes, groups involved, artistic program, organisational structure (they have a 'Ministry of Arts', 'Ministry of Arts and Angels'
 - Will be an opportunity for arts and crafts groups to have promotions during festivals (stalls, demonstrations, workshops etc)
 - Lantern making workshops will happen in the lead up to the festival with Lismore based Jilly Jackson. Making lanterns for the performance part of the festival.

Group discussion on the benefits on 'inclusive' events that enable people to tap into labour from different parts of the community.

- Finding ways to make events a) inclusive and b) fun.
- Also finding people who can be leaders of different aspects and do their thing independently.
- Thing of non-arts groups to engage eg Lions, Rotary, Landcare.
- Councils like dealing with 'coordinators' or 'organisers', people who are the 'spokesperson' who are organised, know the language and can be contactable.
- Value of events and festivals that come from 'community ideas' and passion.
- Insurance for stall holders.

Agenda issues for the day:

- Regional crafts trail brochure/ flyer
- Ideas for working with younger children/ different parts of the community (Heather)
- Funding opportunities
- Encouraging travel to other towns



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- Ideas and trends slide show (Maryanne)

Ideas for working with younger children/ different parts of the community

Heather gave examples as funded through the Better Futures program

Examples of what they have done/ ideas of what might work:

- Weekly drumming group
- Ladies go to the high school and do knitting classes with kids
- Condobolin circus group – now about 45kids
- LAC have sponsored a new drama group.

Other ideas

- Youth centres/ PCYCs are good places to interact with kids (workshops etc)
- Also Family Support – most have the PACE (Parents and Communities Engagement program) Egs of activities might be scrapbooking, basket weaving.
- Also schools/ after school care programs. ‘Active After School Communities’ programs Need a ½ day certificate to work in after school programs. Contact is Emily Pavel at the DET I Orange
- Also Community Drug Action Committee (CDAD) (under crime prevention). Usually has about \$3K-\$4K per town
- Employing people to run workshops – people can be employed as a ‘hobbyist’ by completing a ‘statement by supplier’ – so they won’t need an ABN. LAC, for example, pays tutors about \$45 per hour.

Links/ Travel between towns

- Lachlan Arts Council pays for petrol of people doing car trips to events if they take a few people along. They also sometimes ask council to borrow a car.

Communications/ Promotion

ACTION:

- Maryanne to investigate whether AOW could also produce a separate “Whats On” listings sheet (1-2 months at a time) just for the Parkes, Lachlan and Forbes LAGS, that could be emailed/ posted to groups, venues to cross share info across the three shires.

Art/ Craft Trail brochure

Ideas, objectives etc needed for an craft and arts trail brochure discussed. Brainstormed about content, look, themes, design.

ACTIONS:

- Maryanne will type up notes and create a briefing document.
- Maryanne will contact those from network group to around 2 or so people from each town to be on a steering committee and bounce drafts and plans back and forth.

Contact list

Details updated on contact list. See attached.

Website links:

Kalari-Lachlan River Arts Festival: <http://merrillfindlay.com/>

Links from Maryanne's powerpoint slide show:

- meetmeatmikes.blogspot.com (a shop, website, groups of women who craft)
- <http://decor8blog.com> (for ideas)
- www.mypoppet.com.au (for ideas)
- www.incube8r.com.au
- www.craftvic.asn.au
- <http://craftcitymelbourne.blogspot.com>
- www.magnoliasquare.com.au (marker for crafters)
- www.etsy.com (place to sell hand made things online, like ebay)
- <http://radicalcrossstitch.com> (craft for political activism)
- <http://www.uacvt.org.au/CommInitiative/Pages/knittingroom.aspx> (the Knitting Room)



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