



Gallery Newsletter

April 2016

Hi everyone,

We have a very busy couple of months coming up!

Weede

Hopefully everyone is out there getting friendly with the weeds around us and making weed-themed artworks for **Weede** - any medium – basketry, painting, sculpture, photography – whatever! Bring your work to the Gallery before midday on Wednesday 4th May and then join us for the opening on Friday 6th May at 6pm, which will be a great way to kick off the Open Studios weekend.



Open Studios and Workshops in May

Our brochure has now been printed and it looks great, see attached pdf version or drop into the Gallery to pick one up. For bookings for the **Workshops** go to www.creativegippsland.com.au and type the name of the workshop or artist or event into the search box to take you to the event page, and from there go to the bookings page and book directly online. If anyone is having trouble navigating the bookings please call Tracey on 0418 221 078 for some help. We would love all of our members to visit the **Open Studios** as well on 7th and 8th May – these studios are truly inspiring, a labour of love over many years by some of our local artists. Don't forget to book in for the **Art Lovers' Feast** at the Ensay Winery on 28th May (bookings also at www.creativegippsland.com.au), it should be a fabulous finale to a great month!

Artist in Residence in Omeo

We are delighted to announce that an artist in residence has been selected for Omeo: textile artist Wanda Bennett.

"I have been working as an Artist / Designer since 1990, working mainly with natural, recycled and found materials. I use both traditional and contemporary techniques . . . my work varies from traditional and contemporary basketry, processional puppets, large living and dried sculptures, installations, textile hangings and garments. Working with the community also plays a large part in my work and although my main skills lie as a maker I have experience in street performance and have worked on and coordinated projects combining visual art, drama, music and film."

www.wandabennett.mackaycreatives.com.au



Wanda will be working from the empty shop next to the pharmacy in the main street of Omeo in the last week of May – please call in and say hello, take her some soup or cake or whatever! Wanda's residency will be very engaging and energizing for the community - she would love to have hands-on participation from anyone who would like to be involved. Please contact Tracey on 0418 221 078 for more info. The residency has been coordinated and funded by East Gippsland Shire Council in collaboration with Creative Gippsland, see <http://www.creativegippsland.com.au/news>



Basketry Group

Following a basketry workshop last year by Lyn Lochrie, a very keen basketry group using natural materials is meeting monthly around the area. It usually meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 10am-2pm. BYO weaving materials and lunch and a \$5 donation to support the group. For more information contact Jenny Coy on 5157 3203 or ensaywinery@bigpond.com.au

Gallery Space

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped rearrange the Gallery and set up window display space in the empty shop next door, it's looking fabulous! The whole streetscape is very much improved and we now have more display space. We plan to display Pat Oram's handmade puppets in the window space in time for the Swifts Creek school reunion at the end of April – it's a truly wondrous and quirky collection, thanks Lilli Antonoff for unearthing them!

Small Town Transformations

Unfortunately we weren't successful in being shortlisted this time, but it was a very interesting process with many great ideas floated that might find a way to grow in the future. Thanks to everyone who put in their time, ideas and thinking for this project, it was a very impressive community effort!



Gallery Website

If any artists would like to have a web presence but don't have a website, you can feature your work on the Gallery website, www.greatalpinegallery.org.au Please email your information and images to Barry Lomas at barrylomas@gmail.com

The Gallery's Facebook page also features a wealth of up to date information, search for The Great Alpine Gallery on Facebook. Thanks Annie for your constant contribution of gorgeous photos.

Foundry

Is looking for FIG JAM (etc). Does any anyone (or any group) make FABULOUS jams and preserves (and other nice things like that) – that can be sold legally – that could be marketed under the (f)routelabel and sold at Foundry? Email core@froute.com.au

Email contact

PLEASE PLEASE if you have an email address let us know – with the price of postage going up to \$1 per letter it costs the Gallery quite a bit for mailouts so if you have an email address we can use for sending out information like this, please email Annie at greatalpinegallery@gmail.com including your name in the email.

I hope to meet a lot more Gallery members at some of our upcoming events – there are so many creative people out there I haven't met yet! Wishing you all a productive and cosy time (Danish "hygge") as we head into the cooler months,

Warm regards

Tracey Johnson, President Ph 0418 221 078



The Festoon of Flowering Filaments looking fabulous at Frouteville. Thanks so much to all the Festoon makers!