

PO Box 292 Newborough 3825 www.moartz.com

MOaRTZ MUSE

Another year is almost over, and what a year we have had!

This has been an experience for youth, visual arts and theatre. Moartz has made the big move from Elizabeth Street in Moe, where we have been using the building mainly for storage for quite a few years, to 'The Depot' in Yallourn North which is larger and suits our growing needs.

Enjoy the Muse and see what we have been up to during the year.

Merry Christmas and see you all in 2017 for wonderful creative things in Latrobe Valley!

Make sure you contact me if you would like to put your art event in the Muse or just promote your own art in the Moartz Muse. Let us know what is going on in your art field. Send articles, photos, promos, Facebook info etc. to Sharon Anderson: artfxpaint@bigpond.com 0409 436 268



KATHY ROSS

ARTIST PROFILE

INTERVIEW WITH KATHY ROSS

Q. When did you realise you had a passion for acting?

A. I've always had an interest in TV shows. Loved Jerry Lewis films etc as a child. At High School I was involved in the school choir & eisteddfods etc.

Q. What has been your favourite role?

A. I would have to choose between the roles of "Claree" in Steel Magnolias & "Frau Schmitt" in The Sound of Music.

Q. What has been the highlight for you so far?

A. Highlight was being nominated for best supporting actress at Victorian Drama League for my role in Steel Magnolias.

Q. What process do you use to prepare yourself for the part you are playing?

A. I prepare myself by having a read through first, and then I highlight my part in the script, have it recorded and play it on my CD while driving, or on my phone to listen to before bedtime.

Q. Who would be your favourite actor?

A. I have lots of favourites. Sandra Bullock, Daniel Day Lewis, Robin Williams, Edward Norton, Sacha Baron Cohen.

Q. What would your dream role be?

A. My dream role would be as Mrs Bucket in "Keeping up Appearances"

Q. What advice would you give to aspiring actors?

A. My advice would be to give it a go, don't be discouraged if you don't get a role you wanted. Work hard at learning lines, be prepared to take direction and most importantly – Have Fun...



Moartz's first Youth Scholarship was awarded to Hope Townsend for participation in the VDL/Theatrecraft Youth Unlimited – 2016 Summer Performance Project jointly sponsored by Moartz and Latrobe City Council. Hope wrote a Camp Review for us to read.

Camp Review

I was 1 of 50 people from around Victoria to attend the Theatrecraft Youth Unlimited Summer Performance Project. I was fortunate to receive a scholarship from MoArtz Inc. The Summer performance project ran over 9 days, from the 9th to the 17th of January. We participated in three workshops, developed scripting and rehearsals which lead to the performance of two productions being "1,2,3 Home" and "3,2,1 Leave(s)". I was involved in "3,2,1 Leave(s)".

The first workshop was "Puppetry", which gave us an understanding on how puppets work and how to use them on stage. The second workshop was "Voice", in this workshop we learnt some fun and relaxing vocal warm-ups and exercises. The final workshop was "Acting" and this workshop taught us how to express ourselves and emotions on stage based on different scenarios.

I would recommend going to this program because...

- . You will meet a lot of new people and make good friends.
- . You will get the opportunity to perform on stage.
- . You will gain a lot more self-confidence when performing.
- . You will be able to help make a script from other people ideas.
- . You will be able to interact with the crowd, (making them laugh, cry, gasp, etc.)

I would like to thank MoArtz Inc. for this opportunity to attend, as without the scholarship I would not have been able to have such a good and fun experience.

Hope Townsend



VDL Theatre Sound & Lighting Workshops

On Saturday 2nd of April, Annette O'Shea, Mike Pullar and John Teague attended a Victorian Drama League workshop "Introduction to sound and sound effects" at the Peridot Theatre, Mount Waverley.

The facilitator, Lachlan Campbell took us through a whole spectrum of sound related topics, including control boards, speakers, microphones, cabling and software.

It was a fascinating and informative day with all participants learning a great deal on this complex area of theatre technology. We are sure the many tips & tricks learnt will help make Moartz future productions be "music to your ears".

Lachlan (facilitator), Annette & John look on as Mike comes to grips with eliminating feedback on a graphic equaliser.



Then, on September 17th, John & Brad Teague and Mike Pullar attended another VDL workshop at Beaumaris Theatre Company, this time the subject was theatre lighting.

The facilitator, John McKissock, demonstrated a broad range of lighting equipment, explaining the pros and cons of each. He then gave us a fascinating demonstration of the use of colour and shadow to enhance the mood of a scene and to boost or soften the visual impact of costumes, sets, props etc.

Open Studios Latrobe in April 2016 was just as successful as our first in October 2015 but this time it was held over the whole weekend; Saturday the 16th and Sunday the 17th of April. Once again we were very lucky with the weather and our visitors came by the dozen!

We were partnered with Powerworks once again and our visitors found them very helpful in planning the visits and getting a taste of what the artists had to offer with a small exhibition on show.

We had new artists involved which was good for our visitors. Each studio averaged about thirty to forty visitors each day. It was very successful and our visitors and artists felt the two days was much less frantic than the one day October Open Studios. There was a more relaxed attitude to the visits as there was always one more day to see the studios.

The promotion of Open Studios Latrobe in April was more organised. Once again we produced a poster map designed by one of our artists which was then printed and distributed by the Open Studios Artists and other volunteers. We also put in a successful Latrobe City Events grant application in 2015 which was used to advertise in the Latrobe Valley Express two weeks leading up to Open Studios. This was accompanied by a great editorial of one of our new artists. Our Facebook page 'Open Studios Latrobe' was updated regularly with



Carolyn Henry speaking with visitors at her Yallourn North Studio

images and videos of the artists in their studios thanks to Mandi Thorpe who visited nearly every artist before the event. They were a great hit.

There were 223 paying visitors over this weekend which helped us have a healthy bank balance. This will go towards the October Open Studios Latrobe and will assist in paying for the poster map which is not totally covered by the \$25 artist participation fee.



Visitors looking at Ken Downs watercolours in his Newborough studio



Wayne Milner in
'The Castle Studio' Morwell



The Latrobe Valley Express, Monday, 11 April, 2016 — Page 9

news

Sneak peak into art world

Tuning up: Yinnar South sculptor Nicole Allen with one of her latest pieces. photograph hayley mills

By FARRAH PLUMMER

FROM the mining regions of Morwell and Newborough to the rolling hills of Boolarra, an art trail of studios and boutique galleries are awaiting personal discovery.

Latrobe Valley artists are opening the doors of their tucked away studios in an invitation to observe the creative process.

The Moartz event, Open Studios Latrobe on Saturday and Sunday will see locals take a country drive to wander through 18 Latrobe Valley artists' studios on a self-guided tour.

Organiser and participating artist Mandi Thorpe said the event would be bigger and better than the inaugural event last year, running over two days.

Ms Thorpe said the weekend-long event would allow for people to see artist demonstrations and for artists to share their art practice.

"A lot of like-minded people come out of the woodwork who do art themselves and want to talk about what they do as well," Ms Thorpe said.

"It's great for the community to share information and inspiration."

Sculptor Nicole Allen will show her figurative steel and stone creations at her 11-acre Yinnar South property.

The areYinnar member, who creates abstract figurative work, recently created a mirror-finish 'walking woman' at the remodelled Eastland Shopping Centre in Ringwood and won the Toorak Sculpture Prize.

Ms Allen said she was excited to show people her studio and gardens overlooking the Strzelecki Ranges.

Tickets are \$5 per person to enjoy 18 studios over the weekend.

Powerworks in Morwell will be the central information centre. For more information visit Open Studios Latrobe on Facebook.

Captivating: One of Yinnar South sculptor Nicole Allen's latest pieces.

Open Studios Latrobe October 2016

After the huge success of the first two Moartz Open Studios the weather let us down but didn't undo our enthusiasm. We introduced new artists to Moartz and to the visiting public over the weekend of the 22nd & 23rd of October. Some of our new artists had tried open studios on their own previously with varying success but found working with a large group was a much better way to attract lots of visitors.

Some of us who had participated in the last two Open Studios found it a little quieter as some of our visitors wanted to see the new artists. It is good to keep our visitors interested.

In the future we are only holding Open Studios Latrobe once a year in October. Watch out in 2017 for your favourite artists and their new artwork and of course new artists who may offer something different for you to see on your tour of Latrobe Valley's studios.

Keep watching our Open Studios Latrobe facebook page and www.moartz.com website for more information.

Moartz gives many thanks to Latrobe City Council who provided an Events Grant which assisted us in promoting Open Studios Latrobe to the visiting public.

open studios latrobe

10am - 4pm SATURDAY 22nd
& SUNDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2016

Spend a glorious, relaxing weekend visiting 22 artists & galleries.

Mandi Thorpe . Sharon Anderson
Bob Pelchen . BNYM Indigenous Designs . Powerworks
Valerie Hibberd . Wayne Milner
Lea Jones . David Aldridge . Alvina Bishop-Edwards
Sharon Van Vliet . Lauren Perkins . John Abery
ARC . Amanda Thompson . Yvette Atkins . Kate Zizys
Sheena Jones . Red Barrel Designs . Jenny Peterson
John Frayne . Janette Arnold-Collins

Look out for more information soon!

Facebook - Open Studios Latrobe

MOARTZ

Frayne's world, it's arty time

Farrah Plummer 17 Oct 2016, Latrobe Valley Express

large gum trees, John Frayne's studio is the perfect hide-away for any reclusive artist.

John said the property in Boolarra reminded him of his homeland after years on the road selling his wares to galleries across Australia and opening his own downtown studio in Fremantle.

"During that time I came through Gippsland and looked around and thought 'I'd love to live here' and it reminded me of Ireland, only five degrees warmer," John said.

"I felt like I should be moving here and that went on for about five years and I looked for a place and this place found me. I don't think I made a choice about it."



Silver jewellery maker John Frayne making a silver chain from his home studio in Boolarra. photograph Farrah Plummer

John is among 22 artists participating in Moartz's 'Open Studios Latrobe' event that invites locals to spend their weekend wandering through Gippsland art studios on Saturday and Sunday, 22 and 23 October from 10am to 4pm.

"I've always wanted to open my workshop to the public and this seemed like a good way to start," John said.

The craftsman said the studio, which sits beside his home, was the only building in a collection of sheds to survive the 2009 fires, a fate he attributed to its tin cladding.

Inside, John sits at a green vintage lounge chair by a wood stove as he manipulates and twists the silver and copper wires into submission.

He is surrounded by spools of the material hanging from recycled timber walls, a desk with soldering material, blow torch, a series of vices, an old library card filing system filled with trinkets and a bench of polishing wheels to give the silver its desired lustre.

The former chemist and teacher has been making Celtic jewellery since the 1980s.

He said he was largely self-taught, first starting the practice to support himself through study and selling his work at market stalls on the streets of Dublin.

"People love the Celtic patterns. My work has always been well supported, everywhere that I've travelled," John said. Many of the pieces are unique. Rings are made from decorative, souvenir spoons and forks have been used to make bangles and necklaces. He said a woman in Mirboo North recently brought him a fistful of heirloom forks and spoons and a week later asked if he could make something for her family. Using the decorative handles, he made four bangles for the family's four sisters.

"I cut them in the middle, soldered them together and made four bangles for (the) sisters, got them plated and gave them back to her," John said.

"It was something that had been in her family for a long time and now it's going back to her family again. There was something really special about that."

John runs jewellery making workshops from his studio and in Mirboo North.

For more information, email John Frayne at jtfayne@gmail.com or phone 5169 6414 or 0427 011 157.

For a list of artist studios at this month's 'Open Studios' event, visit Facebook, tourist information centres, galleries or a local library.

Latrobe Valley Express article from the 17th of October 2016



Left John Abery in his Hazelwood South studio.

Right: Visitors enjoying Lauren Perkins exhibition in Traralgon.



Secret Bridesmaids' Business

Written by Elizabeth Coleman, Directed by Jack Millar.
By Special Arrangement with Cameron Creswell
Agency Pty Ltd

Moartz 25th community theatre production, *Secret Bridesmaids' Business* was staged at Monash Hall, Yallourn North on 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 9th and 10th September. This play was a "re-do" having been produced by Moartz back in 2002 and was extremely well received then, as it was now, fourteen years later.

373 patrons came to enjoy this iconic Australian play written by the much renowned Elizabeth Coleman and directed by Jack Millar. Some of the patrons' comments (via feedback surveys) included:

I thought the acting was very professional, all members playing their roles beautifully - a good laugh! (Shirley from Moe)

First class entertainment, a high standard of acting by all. (Greta from Newborough)

Yallourn North Hall is a great venue now it's been renovated. Congratulations to all cast & crew for a truly enjoyable & professional show! (Ian from Traralgon)

Very powerful acting. Very moving (Marion from Yarragon)

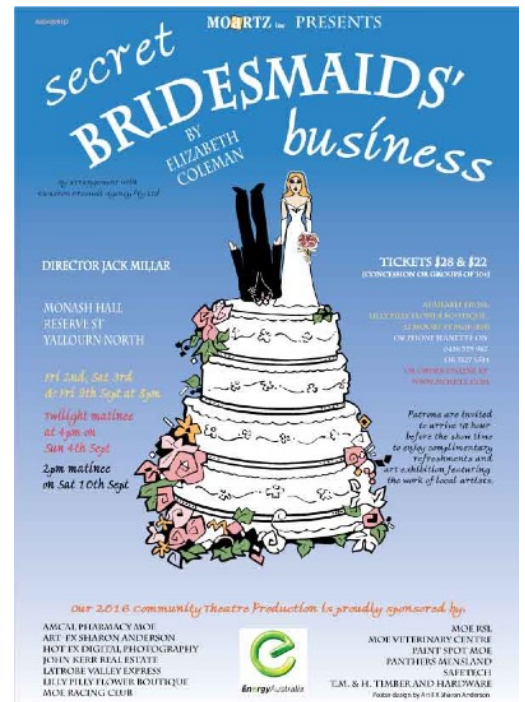
The cast members and their characters were;

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| • Dorette Diender | <i>Hotel Housemaid</i> |
| • Amy Moss | <i>Meg Bacon</i> |
| • Annette O'Shea | <i>Angela</i> |
| • Mike Pullar | <i>James Davis</i> |
| • Kathy Ross | <i>Colleen Bacon</i> |
| • Dannica Shaw | <i>Naomi Bartlett</i> |
| • Julie Strini | <i>Lucy Dean</i> |

We are delighted to be able to say Moartz continues to welcome new actors to our "fold". We were pleased to have Amy Moss and Dannica Shaw bring their wealth of talent to a familiar and experienced cast of Dorette Diender, Annette O'Shea, Kathy Ross, Julie Strini and Mike Pullar. Mike reprised his role of "James" (the groom) from our 2002 production of SBB, and hey, he didn't look a day over...



Dannica Shaw, Kathy Ross and Amy Moss





Amy Moss, Annette O'Shea and Julie Strini

A special mention to Dorette who was also the Stage Manager. She delivered the character of Hotel Housemaid brilliantly whilst executing the demanding responsibilities of Stage Manager.

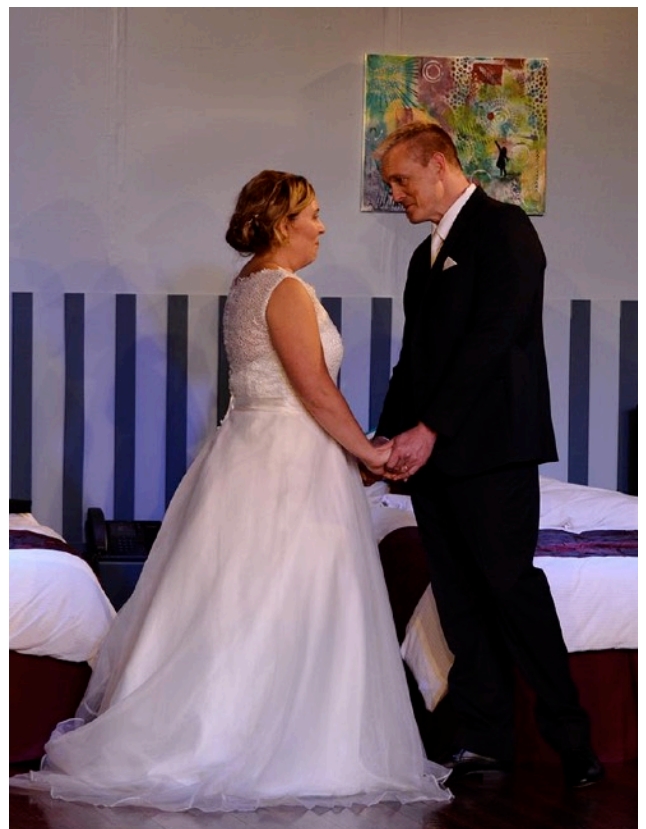
Speaking of special mentions; the front of house display was stunning with the entry foyer beautifully set up with a retro-wedding look

which included antique crockery, an exquisite beaded and lace dress and other wedding paraphernalia. Patrons were very impressed and said so! Congratulations Janie-Lee Benson on a fantastic job of designing and setting it up.

Once again we were fortunate to have our visual artists join us and provide an exhibition of works prior to the shows and during interval. This creates a fabulous atmosphere where guests enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles while viewing the art before they take their seats for the performance. It is an important way we can show our patrons that Moartz is about fostering appreciation of the arts in all its forms.

Secret Bridesmaids' Business made a modest profit of \$2,059.12 which will be channelled back into our not-for-profit organisation to help fund future shows and/or buy theatre related assets. Special thanks to our valued sponsors, without whose support we probably wouldn't make it into the black as it is important to us to keep our ticket prices low making it as affordable as possible.

Thanks to; Amcal Pharmacy Moe, Art FX Sharon Anderson, Colli's Hair Design, Energy Australia, Home Timber & Hardware, John Kerr Real Estate, Latrobe Valley Express, Lilly Pilly Flower Boutique, Moe Racing Club, Moe RSL, Moe Veterinary Centre, Paintspot Moe, Pam & Peter Boyes Photography, Panther's Mensland and Safetech.



Amy Moss and Mike Pullar

Secret Bridesmaids' Business was entered into both the Gippsland Associated Theatre (GAT) and Victorian Drama League (VDL) annual awards competitions. At the recent awards ceremonies we were honoured with several nominations and a winning award!

GAT Awards held on Sat 3rd December in Warragul

Nominated for:

Most Outstanding Female Lead Actor – Amy Moss

Most Outstanding Female Support Actor – both Annette O'Shea and Julie Strini

Most Outstanding Director – Jack Millar

Most Outstanding Production – *Secret Bridesmaids' Business* (Moartz)

Most Outstanding Small Ensemble (3-5 people) – “Meg, Angela & Lucy” *Secret Bridesmaids' Business* (Moartz)

VDL Awards held on Sun 4th December in Murrumbena

Nominated for:

Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy – both Annette O'Shea and Julie Strini

The winner of this section was Julie Strini.

Congratulations to the entire cast and director, Jack and special congratulations to our nominees and winner, Julie Strini.

Thank you to all our volunteers, the dozens of people in front of house and behind the scenes that help make each production such a success.

Jeanette Teague

Production Manager

Secret Bridesmaids' Business – 2016



Annette O'Shea with her VDL Nomination



Front of house display thanks to Janie-Lee Benson

A PLACE TO CALL HOME – Now all we need is a name

As a vibrant growing theatre company Moartz was in desperate need to find more suitable and sizable storage accommodation than our current premises in Elizabeth Street Moe.

E-Street, as it was affectionately known, had served Moartz well for many years, however, the move to commence staging shows at the Monash Hall Yallourn North resulted in a significant increase in materials and equipment that required storage.

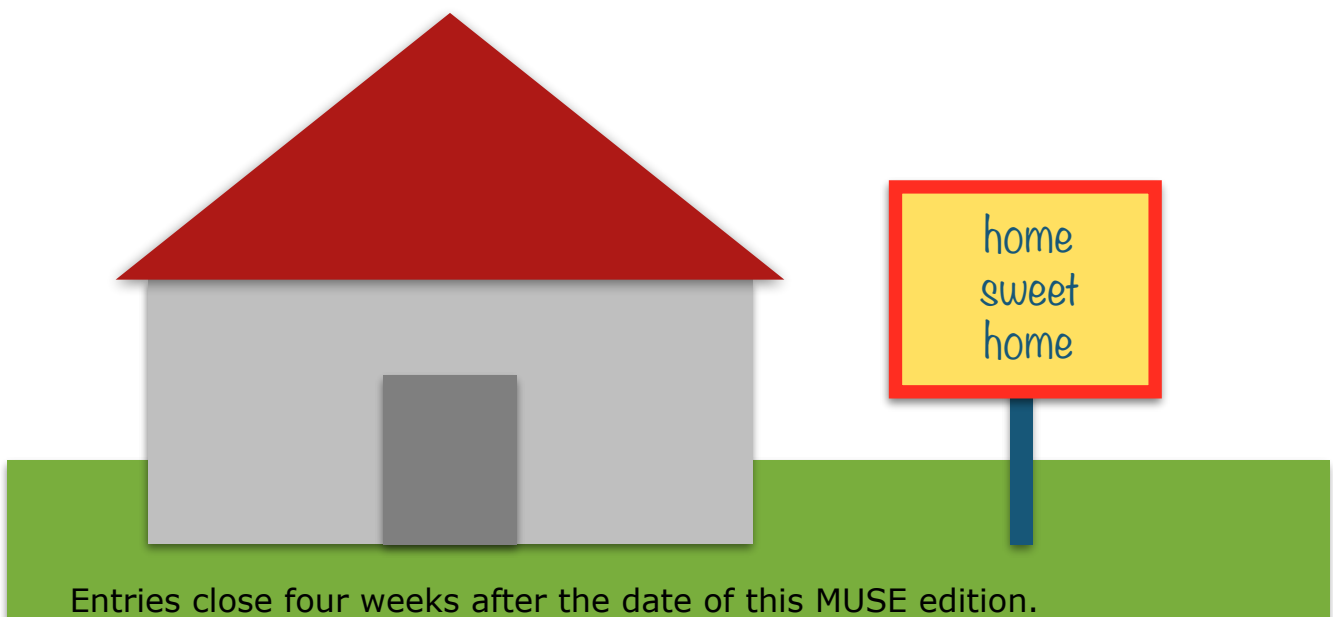
In order to transform Monash Hall into a temporary theatre Moartz invested heavily in the manufacture of tiered seating and partitions to significantly improve the ambience of the hall.

The tiered setting was a big hit with patrons but the 32 wooden block structures which formed the tiered setting were big and bulky and could not possibly be stored at E-Street.

The committee embarked on a project to find alternate dwellings and with the assistance of the Latrobe City Council we took a look at the old city depot in Mill Road Yallourn North. Upon inspection of the premises the Committee was unanimous in deciding that these premises would more than meet the longer term storage requirements of Moartz.

To seal the deal a three year lease was signed between Moartz and the Council and Moartz quickly restored power to the premises. Through the skill and direction of John Teague the premises is quickly being transformed into a workable space which Moartz can be proud to call home.

What we need now is to give the place a suitable name. Please forward your suggestions to John O'Shea, Moartz Treasurer, on E-mail aandjoshea@gmail.com.



2016 Latrobe City Council Community Grants

Moartz would like to acknowledge and thank Latrobe City Council as we were fortunate enough to be successful with our applications for two Community Grants this year.

The first, an events grant of \$1422.00 has been applied to Open Studios Latrobe, the very successful event held on 22nd & 23rd of October this year. Full details about this fantastic event can be found elsewhere in the MUSE.

The second, a \$1450 capital grant will be put towards the purchase of materials and the construction of 12 art display frames in the new year. The frames will be used to display art at our annual theatre production, be used for our exhibiting artists who may need more display space for future Open Studios events and/or can be used to bring in some revenue or for partnership development as other community groups may seek to hire or borrow them if they have their own art exhibition.

Thank you again Latrobe City for these grants which help us to provide fantastic opportunities for our community to appreciate and enjoy the arts.



Moartz AGM 2016 and Committee for 2017

Moartz held its 2015/2016 Annual General Meeting on Thursday 10th November at the Uniting Church Hall in Newborough.

Fifteen members were in attendance to hear guest speaker, Chris Buckingham, talk passionately about Moe's great sense of community and the significant contribution Moartz has made to that community spirit in the past sixteen-plus years.

President Annette O'Shea sincerely thanked Chris for his interesting talk and then proceeded to present the annual report to the members highlighting a year of many achievements and accomplishments.

Eight nominations for the eight committee positions were received by the Secretary 24 hours prior to the AGM and, as stipulated in our constitution, this meant that these eight people were duly elected.

Your representatives for 2016/2017, in alphabetical order, are: Sharon Anderson, Colin Croot, Dorette Diender, Kris McIntosh, Annette O'Shea, John O'Shea, Jeanette Teague and John Teague.

Also in accordance with our Rules, the determination of roles and responsibilities occurs at the first meeting of the new committee which occurred on Monday 5th December and these positions are:



Pictured: Sharon Anderson introducing guest speaker Chris Buckingham at the Annual General Meeting in Newborough

President: John Teague

Vice President: Colin Croot

Secretary: Jeanette Teague

Treasurer: John O'Shea

Ordinary Members: Sharon Anderson, Dorette Diender, Kris McIntosh and Annette O'Shea.

Members who took on additional responsibilities included:

Depot Coordinator: John Teague

Membership: Colin Croot

MIST(Theatre) representative: Jeanette Teague

MUSE Editor & Visual Arts Coordinator: Sharon Anderson

Web page & Social Media: Annette O'Shea

New President John Teague made a special vote of thanks to outgoing President, Annette O'Shea on the outstanding job she did as President of Moartz over the past two years.

Congratulations to the new committee for 2016/17!

Lowanna College VCE Awards 2016

Annually, Moartz provides a cash prize to the top VCE student at Lowanna College in each subject area relating to the arts, known as the Arts Awards for Excellence. The presentation night was held on Wed 14th December and was attended by President John Teague who awarded the students and congratulated them on their achievements on Moartz behalf.

The students in receipt of the Arts Awards for Excellence for 2016 were;

Literature:

Rachel Sultana

Media:

Jemma Colgrave

Music Composition & Style

Ethan Detering

Music Performance:

Caitlyn Adshead, Ethan Detering and Ian Pettingill
(shared 3 ways)

Studio Art:

Maddison Arnold

Congratulations to all the students concerned.



Maddison is pictured with one of her VCE pieces.

Maddison has also entered the "40 Plus Club" having achieved a score of 40+ for her VCE subject of Studio Art.

Dear Actors/Directors,

We are seeking Expressions of Interest (Eoi) from Actors/Directors to direct and propose plays for potentially 3 events in 2017 on behalf of Moartz.

The event/s for which we are seeking Eoi are;

1. A two act play in a drama, comedy or farce genre to be performed at the Yallourn North Hall on 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 8th & 9th September, 2017.
2. A one act play suitable as Moartz' entry into the FAMDA One Act Play Festival which will be approximately on the 3rd weekend in August (19th/20th), with dates to be confirmed.
3. A one act play or pantomime to be performed at the Yallourn North "12 Days of Christmas" festival which will be sometime between 1st-12th December, 2017 with final date to be confirmed.

Note: The SAME one act play (as per items 2 & 3 above) could be proposed for BOTH FAMDA and Yallourn North Christmas Festival events.

An application form (Expression of Interest) along with detailed information can be sent to you via email.

The closing date for applications is **Tuesday 31st January, 2017.**

If you have any questions, please reply by email or phone (numbers below).

Regards from

Jeanette Teague
Moartz Inc. Sub-committee - Theatre
Administration Officer

Ph. 5127 6514 (H)
0438 579 987 (M)

Arc Yinnar has workshops, exhibitions and events coming up in 2017.

Workshops include:

Botanical Illustration beginning in March.
Printmaking, Drawing & Painting,
Blacksmithing, Sound & Lighting, kids
workshops and many more throughout the
year. **What are you interested
in?**

Exhibitions: 'Gone Troppo' starts the year in
January to mid Feb and **'What a Woman'** arc's
annual Women's Show.

Followed by the **Inaugural 'Gippsland
Sculpture Prize'** which has \$8,000 in prize
money!!

arc will be closed for
the Christmas break
and will re open on
the 17th of January
2017

arc Yinnar

open: Tuesday – Friday 12 – 4

Saturdays 11 – 3

Ph. (03) 51631310

www.arcyinnar.org.au

[like our facebook page arc Yinnar](#)

