

# SOA members reach out



School of Arts members and friends again cooked for BlazeAid with new procedures because of the lockdown. They also helped out with winter clothes and bedding for the volunteers. See story p.2. Jane McLuskey, left, Jenny Hain and Suzanne Dainer.

Despite the CV19 lockdown, many School of Arts' members have been busy with a range of activities over the past month, including assisting BlazeAid. It really is inspiring. It will be good when we can physically meet up again 'on the other side'.

We have two competitions this month - a SOA Trivia quiz (p. 3) and a 'Big Lips' puppet challenge (p. 2).

So, to bring you up to date:

**The NACC:** please see below.

**Kinema:** As you would be aware, the Kinema was forced to close late March with Covid 19 restrictions. What a horror start Jade Griffiths has had since taking over the business in November. The School of Arts committee

has negotiated reduced rent with Jade to help ensure she survives the lockdown.

### From the Studios

**Drawing classes:** Margaret Moran's drawing classes concluded before the 'lock down' (see photos), but Margaret continues to set the group weekly challenges with results shared online. Subjects have ranged from doorways to glasses, and shoes to musical instruments. Great fun.

**The Meditation group:** Since the lockdown, the 9.45 am Wednesday meditation group has taken place in the comfort of homes, courtesy of Zoom technology, rather than the Studios.

*Continued over page*

## Approval for NACC DA almost finalised

News from Council is that staff are now close to finalising approval of the development application for our Arts & Community Centre. We submitted the DA in mid September so it has been a long wait.

Meanwhile the School of Arts committee has applied for another grant. It's an Infrastructure grant (\$140,455 EX GST) from the Office of Responsible Gambling for professional fees for various consultants for the detailed design drawings to get us from the DA stage to the Construction Certificate stage. These include architects, various engineers, surveyors, fire consultants, energy consultants).

Thanks to figures from Neil Mumme and ClarkeKeller, we were able to put together a reasonable application.



The rear of the NACC, courtesy ClarkeKeller.

# SOA marks Anzac Day

To mark Anzac Day and the Memorial Hall's significance as Narooma's first war memorial, Joy Macfarlane (left) dressed the Gallery window and created two wreaths which we placed on either side of the Honour Rolls on the Hall's front façade. The knitted poppies were provided by Sylvia Gauslaa.

Laurelle Pacey read a few appropriate words.



*Continued from previous page*

"Zoom technology can be a little tricky to use but it is a great way for all of us to see and hear each other," says convenor Noi Snith. "Blessings to all our meditators for their understanding, patience and support. To any who would like to join in our 'sharing' and our 'stillness', please contact me at noisnith@mac.com so I can send you a link to Zoom in."

**Polymer clay group:** Convenor Anne-Maree Kape reports it is pretty quiet on the Polymer Clay front at the moment, but the Group is quietly beavering away on various projects to 'WoW' everyone when they get together again. *Shown is Denise Rungen's amazing polymer clay elephant.*



**Thursday drawing group:** Felicity Townend and her group are always up to something. With Su-

zanne they have come up with a fun idea to stimulate your creativity. Felicity calls it the "Sock it to me with your big red lips" puppet comp. Here's her contribution; "GLORY BE, Kiss me before my lips deflate".



*Please send entries to Suzanne studios@naroomaschoolofarts.com.au*

We hope you have fun doing it. Margie Ingamells has already entered a sock puppet made from an old golf sock with big lips.

## From the Gallery

Cat Wilson was scheduled to have her much anticipated exhibition 'from Fez to Casablanca' 23 April-3 May. It's now obviously PC (Post Covid)!

## We help BlazeAid at Cobargo

### First the Food

A massive thanks again to all those SOA members and their friends who contributed to the catering for BlazeAid on Sunday 19 April. The delicious array of goodies included vegan and vegetarian options which were much appreciated by the volunteers who are continuing to repair or replace fences on fire affected properties around Cobargo.

Suzanne Dainer and I delivered the first consignment at 3.30, and Rob Bradley's generous friends and neighbours contributed more very delectable fare which Robyn dropped off later that day.

Social distancing was observed and we placed the food on a bench at the gate, which was then collected by the coordinators and carried inside.

We will continue to prepare dinners for BlazeAid on the third Sunday of each month, unless the Covid risk renders it too restrictive. The next catering event is on Sunday 17 May when we will have

*Continued over page  
Page 2*

## Meet Gervaise, the Giraffe

Our name the giraffe competition in April certainly created some fun and Felicity Townend was delighted with the 22 responses.

She had drawn the giraffe for her cousin Sue in Melbourne. Felicity chose 'the name Gervaise' by Janet Jones. The reason? Sue loves everything French, so Gervaise was the perfect name.



*Felicity and Gervaise*

Janet 's response to her win; "hilarious and made my weekend." Suzanne Dainer presented Janet with her grand prize of six rolls of toilet paper.

# School of Arts' Studios in recess

The Studios will again be available for casual and regular bookings by groups or individuals for arts, cultural and educational activities post the current 'lockdown'.

**For information and Studio bookings:** please ring Suzanne (0431 486 617) or email: [studios@naroomaschoolofarts.com.au](mailto:studios@naroomaschoolofarts.com.au)

ALL School of Arts members are welcome to the fun **Friday Friendzy** (second Friday each month) for a little gardening and housekeeping plus drinks, nibbles and chat.

The next Friday Friendzy is **goodness knows when....**

Regular Activities		
<b>Weekly</b>		
Tuesday	Playing with Polymer Clay	9-12.30
Wednesday	Meditation with Nor Snith	9.30-10.45am
Wednesday	Man-jong	1-4pm
Thursday	Watercolor Art Group	1-4pm
<b>Monthly</b>		
Thursday	Chinese Brush Painting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs 1-4pm
Friday:	Friday Friendzy	2 <sup>nd</sup> Fri 4-6pm
Sunday	Narooma Historical Society	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun 2pm

Will resume on the other side!

## Isolation Trivia Quiz

*Have a go at this over the next two weeks.*

- When was Narooma Soldiers' Memorial School of Arts (known as the Memorial Hall, Kinema) built? Hint - it's written in the star(s)...
- Why is it called 'the Memorial Hall'?
- Name three exhibitions in SoArt Gallery in 2019.
- What colour is the fridge in the Studios?
- What Festival was held in the SOA grounds in 2019? What was its mascot and her name?
- Who are the 'WOW' girls?
- Name the current President School of Arts.
- When is Friday Friendzy normally held?
- Who always has shoes on the Studios' verandah?
- What singing group had their home in the Memorial Hall for many years?
- Name two streets that border the Narooma School of Arts property.
- The School of Arts logo (seen around the grounds) represents aspects of the Arts within the School of Arts precinct. What do those images represent?
- What role did the original School of Arts Hall play in the 1919 Spanish Influenza pandemic?

*First prize is a box of chocolates (should there be a tie, a name will be drawn out of a hat). Deadline is 10 May.*

*Please send entries to Suzanne [studios@naroomaschoolofarts.com.au](mailto:studios@naroomaschoolofarts.com.au).*

## EXHIBITIONS at SoART Gallery

We encourage all artists to consider using the SoART Gallery for an exhibition in the future post pandemic. Reasonable rates with a highly visible location on the Highway next to Kinema. Please phone Libby 0421 321 044 to discuss future bookings.



### WANTED: more fiction books

With everyone in enforced isolation and reading more, there has been a run on books from our Book Swap Nook at the Studios.

All donations gratefully received. If no one is at the Studios, please leave them in a bag or a box on the verandah away from any weather. Many thanks.

*Continued from previous page*

an Indian theme. If anyone wants to get involved, please ring (0434 676 448) or email me [jenny-hain@bigpond.com](mailto:jenny-hain@bigpond.com).

*Jenny Hain*

### More on BlazeAid

The Cobargo BlazeAid camp currently has about 45 volunteers; about 10 are grey nomads unable to return to their own homes, while the rest are backpackers who have no option but ride out the pandemic at Cobargo. Rob Bradley reports the backpackers were initially distressed at their predicament, but now recognise they are in one of the safest places for this period. They have settled in and feel they are contributing in a good way to people who really need their help.

Following a hunch by Judy Whiting that BlazeAid volunteers might need winter items, Rob asked. Sure enough, they did; backpackers hadn't planned to be camping over winter. So Rob put out a call to our SOA BlazeAid catering crew and various friends and the response was amazing.

"Thanks so much for the tremendous response and your generosity," Rob said. "Borgy Leakey kindly took down a full car load on Friday and Kate Wall the next day.

"We ended up with a wonderful range including 10 doonas, five sleeping bags, some pillows and a few woollen blankets, many jumpers, sweatshirts, polar fleeces and jackets, beanies, socks and thermals. Thanks to all and please pass it on to your friends who also donated.

"All in all I think the camp will be warm this winter and perhaps farmers will also benefit from more than just their cosier volunteers."