

NOTICE OF AGM Tuesday 1 March 6.00pm

The AGM of Narooma School of Arts & Soldiers' War Memorial Hall Inc. is on **Tuesday 1 March at 6.00 pm** in the School of Arts' Studios when we will receive a full report for 2021 and elect a new committee. All School of Arts members are invited. We hope to see you then. Committee nomination forms are available on webpage or from the secretary (due week before).

Membership fees are now due (\$20 for 2022). A renewal form is attached, available on our website or in the Studios. If you have joined since 1 October, your membership is good for 2022.

We host 2021 River of Art Prize

Winners of the delayed 2021 River of Art Prize were announced at the exhibition's official opening at the School of Arts Narooma Gallery on 20 January. Exhibition of the final 22 works continues at the Gallery until 6 February. The 2021 River of Art prize had been rescheduled because of last year's COVID-19 lockdown.

The winner was Geoffrey Odgers for his work *Burnt Offerings* (see below). Victoria Collins's *Sapling Forest in Crimson* was runner up with Grace Paleg's *Kiss the Floor* highly commended.

River of Art Festival chair Leanne Joyce congratulated the winners. "It's a very diverse exhibition from a highly talented and committed field," she said. "Fifty artists entered 63 works from within and beyond the Eurobodalla, demonstrating again the quality and commitment of artists in our region."

Ms Joyce thanked the judges – artist and educator Denise Ferris and Bega Valley Regional Gallery Director Iain Dawson.

"We spent quite a while considering the final 22 entries from a very robust field; it



At 2021 Art Prize opening, River of Art Chair Leanne Joyce with judge Denise Ferris and winner Geoffrey Odgers.

was a difficult final decision," Ms Ferris said. "We feel every work will find an appreciative audience; every entrant and their work matter."

The winner received \$2,000, the runner up \$250, and highly commended \$100.

The final works can also be viewed on River of Art's website www.riverofart.com.au.

Entries for the 2022 River of Art Prize open in August.

The 2022 Festival is 16-25 September.

Our NACC Project moves ahead

Our NACC Project Subcommittee has been beavering away with CK Architecture (CKA) and various sub-consultants to make the community's vision for the Narooma Arts & Community Centre (NACC) a reality.

The project is on track. Engineers and others have been working with CKA to finalise the NACC's design ready for the Construction Certificate. Public Works Advisory will soon call for Expressions of Interest from builders.



More survey work is done

The NACC will have major community health and wellbeing benefits for the region as well as economic benefits through cultural tourism, training and job opportunities.

The costs of the Project will be met by a \$7.27m grant from the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) Fund jointly funded by the NSW and Australian Governments.

The NACC is due to open its doors in the second half of 2023.

Narooma Gallery Exhibitions

Our boutique gallery provides a wonderful intimate space for artists to exhibit their work. All enquiries welcome. **Please check our website for more information** www.naroomaschoolofarts.com.au.

Booking enquiries: gallerynarooma@gmail.com

**Until 6 February:
2021 RIVER OF ART PRIZE**

**15-18 April: 10am-4pm
Felicity Townend 'KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON'**

News from Gallery and Studios

Thanks to all those who worked hard to smarten up the Gallery and the surrounds to ensure our School of Arts members showed their pride in the great exhibitions in January.

The Euro Painters and Potters were delighted with their exhibition 5-11 January and with their resulting sales.

Particular mention should be made of our team who worked closely with the River of Art Prize organisers and artists to mount the current exhibition of finalists in the 2021 River of Art Prize. Particular mention should be



Narooma School of Arts President Jenni Bourke and River of Art Prize winner Geoffrey Odgers discuss Geoffrey's winning painting, 'Burnt Offerings'.



Official opening of the 2021 River of Art Prize was held outside in a 'Covid-safe' environment.

made of Barb McConchie, Ann Espinoza, Suzanne Dainer and Joy Macfarlane. Some good sales have also resulted. Sitters also report widespread appreciation of the quality and diversity of the entries.

The Gallery is still available for exhibitions over the next several months, so please consider mounting an exhibition individually or jointly.

All regular groups resume at the Studios in February. We hope to see you then.

Our Studios welcome everyone

The Studios are still available for casual and regular bookings by groups or individuals for arts, cultural and educational activities, as well as specialty workshops until May.

Whatever COVID-19 restrictions are in force at that time will apply. Please check the website or the School of Arts' Facebook page for further details.

More information: please ring Suzanne 0431 486 617 or email: studios@naroomaschoolofarts.com.au.

NORMAL REGULAR WEEKLY GATHERINGS		
Monday	Urban Sketchers en plein air — resumed 17 January. Ring Karen for details 0458 181 282	9ish
Tuesday	Playing with Polymer Clay - resumes 8 February	10-Noon
	Narooma Plein Air Group with Margaret Moran	AM no set time
Wednesday	Meditation — resumes 9 February	9.30-11am
Thursday	Thursday Art Group - resumes 10 February	1-4pm
Friday		
MONTHLY REGULAR MEETINGS		
Sunday	Narooma Historical Society	2pm 20 February

KEEP CALM & CARRY ON

Art by Felicity Townend

SOART
Gallery Narooma
Princes Hwy
Narooma



15th - 18th April 2022
10am - 4pm
daily