This last year has been another interesting year for the Gallery, with two successful exhibitions. One from the Leongatha Branch of the Embroiderer’s Guild, whose display of beautiful and varied embroidered items was much admired by many visitors. It was a shame it was not in place for a longer period, as it seemed it was over all too quickly. As it was held over the Easter Break there were a few days when the Gallery was not open, which meant there were even fewer viewing days. As any exhibition requires a lot of work for many people to organise and install, the committee has suggested that in future any special exhibition should be of at least one month duration.

Our latest special exhibition ‘A Day at the Beach’, held over the summer, was a delight admired by many and which resulted in several sales. (I particularly loved the terns – shame my house is a country, not a beach one!) Well done Jenene Evans, Julia Hancock, Noelene Henson and Sue Gaffy, it was fantastic.

Congratulations to the Painting Group who continue to have success at exhibitions and shows in the district.

The ‘Woodies’ have 2 new members and continue to meet at Alan Hyde’s place.

The new signs are in use and the banner around the front pole is particularly eye catching. I am sure it has been instrumental in bringing more visitors. Thanks again Tric Hill for your work in obtaining the grants that made the signs a reality. Thanks too, to the Shire of South Gippsland for their continued support of our gallery.

The Gallery is looking great as always – thanks to Alysia and her team, but they tell me they are really low on stock. So come on everyone, get your creative juices flowing and add to the items they have to choose from for display.

Our next meeting is the AGM and I would encourage you to come. This is the way you can really have a say in the way the gallery is run. All meetings are open to all members and the committee appreciates input and suggestions from everyone. There are nomination forms for office bearers in the newsletter, so please give serious consideration to becoming more involved with your gallery! Remember too, annual subs are due this month.

Thank you to all my fellow committee members for their patience and support this year.

Noelle Walker
PAINTERS
At the recent Korumburra Art Show Flo Stone won Best Local Artist, and also sold her painting. Pauline John and yours truly each sold a painting too.
Some members entered work at the Inverloch Art Show, (7th, 8th & 9th March).

Happy Painting, Robyn Henn.

WOODWORKERS
Welcome to new member Teeny Talsma.

Members worked on the scroll saw and lathe at Korumburra Show on February 14.

Following our annual meeting on February 9th our office bearers remain the same: -
President - Eric Miles, Secretary – Don Cooper, Treasurer: - Glenice Emmerson.

Annual subs of $40 are now due.

Work nights are busy with preparing club projects for the Working Horse & Tractor Rally at Nyora on March 21st & 22nd. Newer members are also receiving tuition in wood turning and the use of machine tools. Expect to soon see some of their finished work on our display table.

Hands on meeting are Tuesday March 17th and 31st.

April meeting is April 13th. Glenice Emmerson

ROSTER NEWS
Many thanks again to those that help with duty. We understand members have busy lives and some have work to go to, but if you feel you could spare a few hours to do duty once a month, or fill in at odd times when you are available it would be very much appreciated. Would all members please fill in the enclosed form and return to the gallery, or email me your reply, and hopefully we can have the gallery open more often.

Remember – we cannot sell your work unless we are open to the public.

And as always please contact me if you have any queries. Jenene Evans
Welcome Back and a Happy New Year. The Gallery has undergone some changes over the last few months in readiness for the ‘Day at The Beach Exhibition’. This Exhibition was held during December 2014 and January 2015, and was quite successful with the artists selling some of their works and it provided a calm corner to our gallery. Next time we just need to add the sounds of the ocean.

**IS THERE ANY MEMBERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO HOLD AN EXHIBITION?**

The Display Committee would like to thank the following people who have helped us in displaying our artwork successfully.

- Jenene Evans, Sue Gaffy, Julia Hancock and Noeline Henson, who exhibited their artwork for The Day at The Beach Exhibition.
- Pat Dale for her advice and expertise in helping us to display our member’s artwork.
- Jenene Evans for keeping us informed with this wonderful newsletter and our Shop Lifting Sign.
- All the members who brought in Christmas Artwork.
- To the mystery members, who always reads our little notes and complete the jobs we run out of time to do.

We are asking members for the following, Contemporary, Abstract and Pop Art work in the price range of $50-$120. This is not for an exhibition but for general stock.

The Members Notice Board is up and running. Members please check the board above the gallery stock shelves when you are next in for any notes that may concern you. Please **DO NOT** hang notes off the front of the counter as it looks untidy. The note regarding counterfeit $50.00 notes is in the lid of the money tin.

We are also in the process of updating the name tags. If you don’t have a name tag and would like one, could you please leave your name on the note on the notice board and it will be attended to ASAP.

A shoplifting sign has been placed under the ledge on the front counter. Members please do not move the sign without approval from the committee. As members are aware a number of items have been stolen, all members are encouraged to come into the gallery and do a stock take of their items. If you think that you have items missing please provided a note with all relevant details. This will be forwarded to the committee for further follow up. We have approached Crime Stoppers and they will be looking at our gallery to provide suggestions to reduce theft and giving a talk to any interested members.

Note to all painters. We are having problems with inappropriate backing materials being used on paintings (i.e. duct tape, masking tape and packing tape). Due to the heat from the brick walls, it is peeling off the artworks and leaving a sticky residue, marking the gallery walls. We recommend the use of appropriate backing material and tape. When items are removed from the wall and tapes etc. are lifting of the back it gives a poor reflection of the actual work.

**CHRISTMAS STOCK POLICY**

Christmas artwork to be delivered to the gallery no later than the end of October (additional stock will be accepted after this date). All Christmas artwork to remain in the gallery until the first week of January. Stock will be removed from display by the display committee and placed on the take home shelves. If members wish their Christmas items to remain for sale till the end of January they will need to be reduced in line with other shops.

**LAY BY POLICY**

Individual members are not to contact lay-by customers regarding payments or pick up. Our Treasurer (Heather Bruce) or her deputy, are the only people authorised to contact our lay by customers.
STOCK DISPLAY POLICY

The Display Committee is becoming continually frustrated with the unauthorised arranging of stock. A considerable amount of time is spent by the committee on Tuesday afternoons, dusting, vacuuming, cleaning glass and rearranging and putting out new stock. Only to find a couple of days later that individuals have taken it upon themselves to alter the display. As you can appreciate the committee makes a concerted effort to get the display looking right as a group. If individuals wish to change or have a say in the display then they need to join the Display Committee and not act on their own. As previously advised the only rearranging of stock is to be done when an item is sold and leaves an obvious blank space, an item of similarity is to be put in its place.

Stock is desperately needed as per the list on the notice board:-

- Variety of Scarves – knitted, woven, felted and painted silk
- Beanies and hats
- Felted- books, purses, cards and hats
- Jewellery – necklaces and bracelets
- Basketry
- Artist Cards – abstract, hand painted animals (different to what we have already), Australian and local landscapes and birthday cards (male/female/child)
- Craft cards – baby boy/girl, engagement and wedding, aged birthday boy/girl, birthday male/female and sympathy
- Sculptures – small and medium
- Bags – recyclable denim and fabric
- Baby Wear – booties, jackets and jumpers
- Wire Artwork
- Men’s Items – board games and other things
- Children’s Toys

FUTURE EVENTS

We are holding an Open Gallery Night 5:30pm – 8:30pm 8th May to coincide with “Creative Gippsland. Members are invited as a right, along with life and past members, other guests by Invitation, RSVP 30th April for catering purposes. The theme for Creative Gippsland Festival is ‘Swap’ or ‘Exchange’ – something artists and performers have been doing throughout the ages….swapping concepts, exchanging thoughts and opinions. As in previous years following the theme is encouraged but not compulsory, therefore the wide range of events will have something of interest to all – artists are always involved in the ‘exchange’ or swapping of ideas anyway! So new items regarding this are needed for the opening and would need to be delivered by Friday 8th May.

There will be an exhibition by our woodworkers during the daffodil festival.

For Father’s Day we are arranging an exhibition by our male members and hopefully members of the men’s shed’s in our area.

There may also be a Christmas in July exhibition depending on member’s enthusiasm.

In May there is a Proposed South Gippsland Arts Forum which Trish Hill has kindly volunteered to attend on our behalf. If any other members are interested in going please contact Sophie Dixon or Ned Dennis at the South Gippsland Shire.

The Display Committee consists of Alysia Norton, Karen Pedretti with Lyn Brown, Jenene Evans, Peg Elliot, Kelly Smith (Display Committee Support) and Pat Dale (Mentor and Advisor).

Time and time again it is being brought to our attention that the gallery is looking exceptional from both members and the general public. On this note we would like to thank all members for the great variety and quality of artwork that we have to display. We look forward to continually displaying your work and the challenge of creating an exceptional presentation.

Alysia Norton & Karen Pedretti
Members wishing to have their newsletter emailed instead of posted please let me know, my email is bundilla50@bigpond.com
Cheers Jenene Evans

NOTE:
Copyright policy does not permit photos of your art work in the newsletter without your permission. Please let me know if you do not want photos of your work in the newsletter.

Jenene Evans