



Wollondilly Arts Group Inc NEWS Spring 2022

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's been over a year since our last WAG news in Autumn 2021, not a lot has been happening due to COVID lockdowns. Our Creative Get Togethers recommenced in February this year at the Historic Buxton School of Arts Community Hall, with a modest role up of members and friends. With eight Get Togethers so far this year – We still have a way to go as we enter WAGs 19th year of incorporation!

Art Works! ...at illuminate Festival of Art and Light

We have been working on a number of community projects in the Shire.

Wollondilly Shire Councils (WSC) illuminate Festival of Art and Light went ahead in May after a two year absence due to Hall renovations and COVID. WAG curated the Art Exhibition in the recently renovated Shire Hall Art Spaces plus the Artisan Market in the Hall proper.

A huge thank you to the previous WAG Committee: Sue Southwood, Janet Dalton, Yvonne Barry, Marjorie Kay, Anne Bunga and WAG Member Edla Azey, plus special thanks to our former Treasurer Roswitha Giersch whose experience in organising the Artisan Market was invaluable. All a wonderful team of volunteers including Ben Ho and Peter Dalton who also worked their magic to produce the best ever display of Community Art and Artisans creative works under ever changing and challenging conditions.

The facilities available at the Shire Hall are a marked improvement, including fully ducted air conditioning, excellent lighting, new commercial grade kitchen, new toilet facilities and improved security.



WAG volunteers create Council's Illuminate Art Exhibition and Artisan Market in the newly renovated Shire Hall and Art Spaces.

A successful event for Council, the Community and Art in general. Thank you to all who attended and supported Art, our Artists and Artisans.

Winners are Grinners!



Congratulations Marjorie Kay and Julie Farnham for taking out prizes in The illuminate Art Exhibition. Marjorie won First Prize of \$1,000 for her work 'Flooding Rains'



whilst Julie scooped both the \$250 Encouragement Award and the \$500 People's Choice Award for her work 'William Street Exit' well done the judges, Artists and visitors at the three day Art exhibition. It was priceless to see the smiles on both Marjorie's and Julie's faces when told of their awards. :) :

WAG are also undertaking creative projects for The Buxton Community Association (BCA) at their Historic



The three chosen artworks from Buxton Primary School on the Hall fence with room for many more to be added over the years!

School of Arts Community Hall. Three digital posters of children's drawings from Buxton Primary School have been selected and digitally reproduced by WAG with the aid of a grant by WSC organised by Veronica of BCA., then printed by Tahmoor Signs. The posters are affixed to three panels of Colorbond fencing and feature in the garden of the Historic Buxton School of Arts Community Hall.

BCA have also asked WAG to produce a mosaic wall for their newly renovated toilet block. We are at the early stages of planning the design which will probably be an image of the historic locomotive 3801 which you may have seen travelling up the loop line from time to time from Thirlmere Rail Museum. WAG also produced artwork for a Community Noticeboard at the Buxton Shopping Centre. WAG are in the process of planning a mosaic workshop in April 2023, if you are interested in attending please email me, limited numbers will be available (up to 10) further details will follow on Facebook and our website.

Friends of Thirlmere Lakes (FOTL) now possess an 'A Frame' sign with digital Artwork supplied by WAG. The sign was donated by National Parks and Wildlife NSW. FOTL meet at 9:00am at



Lake Couridjah 2nd Saturday of each month except January. The perfect spot for creative inspiration and solace, weeding and walking – weather permitting. You can then attend our WAG Creative Get Together up the road at Buxton Hall from 1:00pm 'til 4:00pm.

WAG 2021-2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our AGM was held at The Historic (and ready for hire) Buxton School of Arts Community Hall on Thursday June 23rd., at 2:00pm., a report and details of the meeting is available for download at the website. Membership of WAG is only \$25 annually or \$40 for family or corporates. Our financial year 2022-23 ends on March 31st 2023.

Don't forget to check our website and Facebook page for the latest updates on workshops and events.

Stay Safe this Spring, try to retain a 1.5m distance from others and continue wearing a mask in crowds as COVID variants and influenza will always be with us.

Regards

Rob Dalton

Workshops in the Pipeline Mosaics.

WAG received a grant from Council which will go toward a Mosaic workshop to be held in April 2023. This will assist in the Buxton Hall toilet block project.

Smarter Photography with Very Smart Phones!

We have put this workshop on hold due to a lack of interest. A little more research is required into gaining attendance. Last years excellent Ceramic Workshop only attracted 6 attendees which was disappointing. Fear of infection, a rise in the cost of living all contribute to our lack of numbers which is understandable. The workshop Tutor, Timm O'Regan was terrific. More effort will be put into publicity and promotion.

WAG storage problems eased with offer from BCA.

WAG has been allocated some secure storage space underneath



the Buxton Community Hall. The space is shared with BCA. Our thanks to Veronica and the Buxton Community Association for their kind offer.

Tips on resizing your Digital Photographic images:

How to resize your images for free on the web.

Materials needed: A computer, PC, Mac, or Chromebook

Estimated time: 2-5 minutes.

Sorting through the hundreds of photos sent by Artists entering the annual illuminate event, it became evident that the knowledge of submitting images to the correct specifications stated on the 'Conditions of Entry' i.e. (72 Pixels Per Inch or PPI, maximum 600 pixels wide, saved as .jpg or .pdf format) was either ignored or the ability of the Artist/Artisan to supply the images to the correct specifications was missing. Ignorance is bliss – for WAG, resizing over 200 images took hours, Here is a way to ease our collective pain.

The US website, befunky.com is accessible from your browser on Windows, MacOS, and ChromeOS. It offers free and easy resizing of common file types, with an option to save your final image as a .jpg, or .pdf. There is also a pay as you go and subscription option if you wish to use more features from the site. Whilst it's not as versatile and fully featured as Photoshop, it's more than capable of handling the vast majority of simple image resizing tasks, without installing any additional software.

What's the best aspect ratio for my digital image?

This depends entirely on what use you intend to put the image to. If it's going to be a background or 'wallpaper', you'll want to use the aspect ratio of the medium it will live on. For example, most smartphones use a 16:9 aspect ration (1600 x 900 or 800 x 450, for example). Meanwhile, most desktops and laptops also use 16:9, but some 'ultrawide' monitors stretch out that width to 21:9.

If you're sharing the image via social media, the best aspect ratio can vary

by site. Instagrams classic square photos used a 1:1 ratio, but it, and other sites, also support ratios likes 4:5 for portraits, 2:1 for landscapes, and so on. Try to check with the specific social networks support page for more info.

Lastly, if you're planning to print your photo, you'll want to use the aspect ratio of your framing size. This means that for an 8"x10" frame, you'd want an aspect ratio of 8:10, likewise 16"x9" would be 16:9, and so on.

What is PPI

Without getting too deep into the technical details of PPI (Pixels Per Inch) resolution, most digital images will look significantly worse once their size has been doubled, they pixelate and will probably be unusable if you go past that. The exceptions with high resolution pics with PPI counts of 300 and above which are used in commercial printing, you can enlarge these by 25% before pixelation becomes obvious, however it is not a recommended practise.

WHAT'S ON CREATIVE GET TOGETHERS, WORKSHOPS, MEETINGS etc: WAG Creative Get Togethers



Every second Saturday of the month except January at the Historic Buxton School of Arts Community Hall
1:00pm – 4:00pm
22 West Parade, Buxton
(parking available opposite the hall near the rail line)

UNDER CONSIDERATION November ART/Artisan Exhibition & Market

WAG Executive Committee

President.....Rob Dalton
Vice President..... Sue Southwood
Acting TreasurerRob Dalton
Acting SecretaryJanet Dalton
Public Officer.....Janet Dalton
Website/Newsletter.....Rob Dalton
Minutes Secretary ..Sue Southwood
Committe Member Marjorie Kay

Visit Our Web Site!

Wollondilly Arts Group welcomes your feedback. Go to:
www.wollondillyartsgroup.com.au
and the WAG 'what is on' page.



or visit us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WollondillyArtsGroup>



We are supported by
Southern Tablelands Arts
and Wollondilly Shire Council

To submit an article please contact Rob Dalton
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“Painters paint what they sell, whilst Artists sell what they paint”

Pablo Picasso