



# SPRING 1997 NEWSLETTER

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



**M**y experiences in the last few months have been vast and intense. From my visit to the IHOS Opera in Hobart to see *DAYS AND NIGHTS WITH CHRIST* to the *BRANCHING OUT* exhibition during NAIDOC Week at the Queensland Museum, I have been further reminded of the scope of work undertaken by Access Arts staff.

Scotia, Robert and John have been on tour at various times, taking up their responsibilities statewide while a constant stream of Artworkers, Volunteers and Members have been visiting or working out of the office. This makes for a very busy environment and we all are waiting for the day when we achieve a better workplace with studios for the many activities we are involved in.

Board Members Deborah McArthur and Ric Trevaskes have become part of the daily running of Access Arts with their constant attention to the Champagne Box/Lid Exhibition and Auction. Their mammoth effort to seek sponsorship and conduct the Art Auction is a credit to them and on behalf of AAI members I would like to thank Deborah and Ric, and

all other Board Members and volunteers for their help in this important quest. We are grateful to the 140 Artists who donated work for the Auction. The evening was an outstanding success (see Deborah's report).

The Auction has helped to promote Access Arts to many new organisations and interested individuals in Brisbane. With each year, new fundraising ideas will develop and provide Access Arts with the funds to purchase our own building! Ric and Deborah have inspired us with their great event.

In August we said farewell to Lowana Moxham, our Co-Project Manager, who has gone to work with La Boite and other projects, although she will return to Access Arts for individual productions and events in the future. Lowana has given Access Arts the benefit of her skills and understanding of theatre and helped us to succeed at the Shock of the New Festival last year. We will all miss her in the office and wish to thank her for the great job she has done over the year and especially the curating of the *final touches* exhibition at the Chermiside Library which opened on 21st August.

Sue Wegner has also spent some time in the office coordinating her Access Choir project in association with Access Arts and IHOS Opera. These workshops are to increase voice production and audition techniques. IHOS Opera's Director, Constantine Koukias, has also been in Brisbane attending the workshop to develop a new work for 1998. This will be

### *In this Edition...*

- "ABBA" by Bill Thomas
- Fundraising Raffle Results
- Neal's Report
- Robert's Report
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- Natalie's Column
- Sausage Sizzle
- Member's Day
- Member's Visual Arts Exhibition and much, much more!

a suspense filled Opera with nine on-stage roles but also many roles for recording of the sound track.

If you have visited the office over the last few weeks you will see that we appear to be in the middle of a very busy period. Our productions, exhibitions and events only happen because the staff, volunteers and artworkers act collaboratively and understand each other's roles. Its been great to see the AAI team working so closely together on a variety of projects.

Support has also been given to members via help with grant writing, information and resource sharing for individual projects, competitions and scholarships. I wish all those artists who are waiting to hear about a grant or project all the best. Keep us posted on your success!

We hope the newsletter provides all our members with information about everything that is going on in Brisbane. Natalie sure does a fantastic job to find the time along with all of her other duties to design, print and post it to all our members. Keep us posted on anything you think should go into the next edition.

**Neal Price**  
*Executive Director*

## Champagne Box Lid Exhibition & Auction Report

**B**rick by brick the building trust fund is under construction. The Champagne Box Auction boosted figures far beyond expectation. An unbelievable \$12,000 was earned through art sales alone - profits expected above and beyond this however, are yet to be finalised.

The eight exhibitions around the inner city captured much media attention, including ABC Television, Briz 31, 4QR, Quest Newspapers and The Courier Mail. A special thanks to our exhibition hosts for their enthusiasm:

- Myer
- Rockinghorse
- Panache Cafe
- Moray St Cafe
- Aromas Wintergarden
- Latin Club
- Coffee Club, Stones Corner
- Voi Salon

Avantcard provided the project's key printed media with a national run of 7,000 postcards promoting the auction. Dynamic design duo, Maryann and Vincent Long are responsible for photographing and designing the card containing AAI member Brad Nunn's "Power Cabinet". The impact of this card was so great that the image was also used on the poster and catalogue, kindly printed by Holly and Southbank TAFE.

The high standard of work of all the contributing artists raised the profile of the auction enormously. So much so that the Director of the Queensland Art Gallery, Doug Hall elected to

open the auction and is supportive of future AAI projects.

If you were one of the 250 people who attended the auction then you were probably thinking - who made this fantastic food? Who else could but Caxton St Catering - creators of fine art food (or is that fine food art?), thanks Lyn and Tom! A further thank you to Mildara Blass who came to the party with a free bottle of champagne for every box.

For those who made it along to the night I think we will all agree that Sandy McCutcheon was an auctioneer to be reckoned with. Was there anyone who had money left in their pockets? It's a fine thing Sandy made us laugh because little did we know that the Memphis Kings would move us all to tears. A beautiful Elvis tribute on the eve of the King's 20th Anniversary. Thank you also to David Clements - the man with the golden tonsils.

One last thank you (and in the loudest voice) to our volunteers throughout the project; Greg Ferrington, Ross Barber, John Stibbs, Jean Paul and, of course, Natalie Barnes - office queen and secretary extra-ordinaire. Thanks again to everyone involved.

Deborah McArthur & Ric Trevaskes  
Coordinators



Anne Kahler with her Champagne Box  
Lid, Mystical Love



Auctioneer Sandy McCutcheon in action



Memphis Kings



Deb & Ric watch over all their hard work



The Jones family keep busy with sales



The hardworking fair staff enjoy a break

## Community Cultural Development National Conference

The Australia Council is to host the first national gathering of community cultural development workers in more than a decade in Brisbane this November.

Artists, artworkers, local government, youth and health sector workers Australia-wide will come together at *dare* - a three day national conference to identify new directions and acknowledge the achievements of the community cultural development field.

Chair of the Australia Council's Community Cultural Development Fund, Lex Marinos, said "the conference is in response to widespread calls for a national gathering to assess the process made so far in the area of community cultural development." Mr Marinos said, "it will enable workers from metropolitan, regional and rural areas to come together to discuss this increasingly diverse area of arts practice."

"It will also address the considerable isolation felt by many community cultural development workers in outlying areas," he said.

The conference will be held in Brisbane on the 17, 18 and 19th November 1997. For further information or input please contact Peter Wood on (02) 9281 6414 or phone toll free on 1800 226 912.

### ABBA

*A rock group who hail from Sweden  
have an incredible sound like no other.  
They will excite, enchant and haunt you,  
a truly unique talent who inspire one another.*

*As their sound comes across in so many forms,  
in words of love, strife, freedom and history,  
you will realise they are singing a message,  
to all who hear their songs about life's philosophy.*

*Their songs will take you through all moods,  
such as in "I've been waiting for you",  
one can feel ecstasy, romance, sadness and beauty,  
and hear history told in "What about Livingstone" and "Waterloo"*

*"Intermezzo Number One" has a brilliant, classical sound  
where as "Mamma Mia" is infectious and "SOS" soulful,  
there is a nostalgic swing in "I Do I Do I Do I Do I Do",  
as they write their songs ABBA are truly wonderful.*

by W A Thomas

## HOSTAGE OF FORTUNE

### A ONE WOMAN SHOW

starring

LIZ NAVRATIL with JOHN RODGERS

Hostage of Fortune is one woman's compelling story of the turmoil of war. Liz Navratil's ancestral journey - from romanticised 19th century Hungary, through the unforgiving battle zone of Mount Isa to current urban survival - grapples with questions of dislocation, loss, and at the most personal level the conflict between spirit and physicality.

A volatile fusion of the narrative, musical and visual, Hostage of Fortune challenges perceptions of history, happy families and disability.

Liz Navratil has worked extensively in the Brisbane theatre scene. Notable productions include Grin and Tonic's *Trilussa & Cresida*, QPAT's *The Night After*, a national tour of *Access Arts' Cabaret Erratica*, and stand-up comedy at the Sit Down Comedy Club - not to mention work with the infamous Pool Bitches from Hell.

Opening the evening with a taste of his acclaimed, unpredictable virtuosity is musical director and soloist John Rodgers, musician extraordinaire, adding further dimensions to the already dangerous terrain that is Hostage of Fortune.

John has worked at the Vienna Festival with Penny Arcade, as a composer with the Australian Art Orchestra, and performed with such luminaries as Robyn Archer and Leah Catterell. He is currently fulfilling the role of Resident Composer for QTC.

Hostage of Fortune combines the directing talents of Meg Kanowski (Cabaret Erratica - Access Arts, The Night After - QPAT, Murray Time - Kite Theatre) and Katrina Devery (QTC Dancing At Luhansa and The Ahaugraun) with the 1997 Metro season designer Anthony Babbicci, based on Gavin Fenelon's conceptual design.

Hostage of Fortune is returning for an exciting season after its debut as the surprise hit at the 1996 Inaugural Brisbane Festival. Hostage of Fortune runs for a limited season at the Metro Theatre, 109 Edward Street, Brisbane from Wednesday, 10th September to Saturday, 20th September (Preview Tuesday, 9th September).

Times: 8 pm (plus Matinee 2 pm, Saturday, 20th Sept)

Prices: \$15 or \$10 concession

Bookings: Lisa Anderson, Experimetro on  
(07) 3221 1527

If you would like something published in the next edition of this newsletter, please send details to Natalie by Friday, 14th November 1997.



## PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

The first six week term of the second semester has been extremely successful. Talking to the participants in the Drama class it appears that Flloyd Kennedy has been a very motivating force. We have been really impressed by the output of each of the workshops. Multi-arts has been exploring some interesting dimensions with Michelle Sams, in week five the hall looked like the board room of the very brilliantly clad'. It has been energy plus with Sandra Collins and the dance group, I feel tired just observing. The music group has enjoyed a range of visitors. They have explored many different types of rhythm and instruments. Brad Nunn and the hard-working visual arts group have been producing some highly creative mixed media pieces. The second and final block of workshops for this year will be commencing on the 30th August.

This looks like it will be a very exciting conclusion to the year's program. With all of the workshops participating in the grand finale to be held under the story bridge at the Kangaroo Point beach. You will all be receiving invitations and information about the final workshop event and sausage sizzle on the 4th October. If you would like to enroll and

participate for the next six weeks please contact the office ASAP!!!

The pilot run for the Master Classes has been successful. Many of our members have enjoyed the opportunity to explore their abilities and skills within various artforms. Flloyd Kennedy inspired the drama group during the first three weeks of term followed by a lot of fun clowning with Russell Dykstra. The human figure was explored in detail with instructors Ross Barber and Rene Blin in Visual Arts. The outcome, an installation, will be

By  
Robert Plant

displayed at a member's exhibition.

Over the past three months we have been conducting an outreach program at the Sunshine Coast and the Gold Coast. A total of six one-day workshops were held, three in each venue. The participants' enthusiasm and productivity, and the demand for an innovative art program, determined a positive outcome on each of these days. Both Annie Lee and Cindy Ranger led the group through a variety of dramatical, musical and visual arts. We look forward to continuing this program next year and gaining many new members.

You'll find included in this edition of the newsletter a two

page survey asking a number of questions related to the program and Access Arts in general. We would appreciate your comments, and please feel free to make constructive criticisms. Please complete and return the survey by the 29th September.

Over the past two years we have run a number of Disability Awareness Program Workshops training hospitality students at Queensland University, Gatton Campus - hospitality faculty. I am delighted to report that we have sold our first session to the Conrad Treasury Casino. We will be running a pilot workshop in November, with the hope of further workshops in 1998. The Sheraton has also demonstrated great interest in the program. We will be pursuing expressions of interest from other companies. If you can suggest any companies that may benefit from our training program please contact myself ASAP.

Hope to see you all at our Sausage Sizzle on the 4th October; you will be receiving invitations in the next weeks. Keep that day free!!!

**Robert Plant**  
**Program Manager**

### Term 2 Sausage Sizzle

Saturday, 4th October  
12:00 noon - 2:00 pm

RSVP: (07) 3280 6306  
by 1st October

Venue: TBA

Cost: \$2 per person



# REGIONAL INDIGENOUS PROJECT OFFICER'S REPORT



## Farewell to Libby

Well it's farewell to my good friend and Support and Development Worker, Libby Sara. Libby has completed her contract at Access Arts and has now moved over to BEMAC. On behalf of all the staff I thank Libby deeply for her support, advice and her excellent work on the "Branching Out" exhibition.

## Cairns Sexual Health

The Cairns Sexual Health Project is almost at an end. To refresh your memory, the artist-in-residence project was being undertaken in six Aboriginal communities within the Cairns District. These communities included Yarrabah, Mossman, Wujal Wujal, Cooktown, Hopevale and Laura.

The visual work produced from the communities of Mossman, Wujal Wujal, Cooktown, Hopevale and Laura were displayed in a Sexual Health Exhibition at the Laura Aboriginal Dance and Cultural Festival, and the Tanks Arts Centre in Cairns during NAIDOC Week.

I had the unexpected pleasure of making another visit to Far North Queensland last week. The purpose of this visit was to launch the sexual health murals in Wujal Wujal, Cooktown, and Hopevale. It was great to catch up with all the communities and I am pleased to say that the launches went well and the communities are left with some magnificent pieces of artwork that have a strong health message.

I've got some great photos

from the project which I am happy to share with any interested members.

## Branching Out

The "Branching Out" Exhibition has now come to an end. The exhibition was highly successful with many of the items that were for sale, being sold. Not to mention the thousands of visitors who were fortunate enough to get to 'Branching Out'. The artists have achieved a huge morale boost, and some artists have even gained work opportunities as a result of 'Branching Out'.

If you were unable to make it to the exhibition - next time you

By  
**John Harvey**

drop in to the office, ask to have a look at the 'Branching Out' Exhibition video.

I would also like to extend a big THANK YOU to the inmates at Moreton Correctional Centre A, who have kindly presented Access Arts with a didgeridoo as a token of their appreciation of the work Access Arts has done on the exhibition and continues to do with them.

Moving on from 'Branching Out', the next step of our partnership with Queensland Corrective Services Commission will be to have an artist undertaking workshops within Moreton Correctional Centre.

## John Oxley Psychiatric Hospital

Things are moving along at John Oxley Psychiatric Hospital. I shall be making use of a small projects

budget I have within my budget to employ an artist to undertake workshops with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients.

The workshops shall focus around self discovery and self identity themes.

## Princess Alexandra Psychiatric Unit

I shall be meeting with the Princess Alexandra Psychiatric Unit early next month to discuss a possible arts project involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with a mental illness or psychiatric disability and the wider Indigenous community.

## Eddie Mabo Documentary

In 1992 the High Court of Australia ruled in the Mabo case that native title exists over particular kinds of land - and that Australia was never terra nullius or land belonging to anyone.

For those of you who would like to learn more about the great man behind the Mabo case - Eddie Mabo, I strongly urge you to watch the documentary "Mabo: Life of an Islander Man" which is currently screening at the Dendy Cinema in town.



John Harvey enjoys the sun in Far North Qld



### Stanthorpe

My two weeks here were spent between establishing contacts with disability organisations and individual artists and running workshops through the INTERARTS 97 Festival. A busy time which has reaped rewards with the idea of a film project occurring in the future. This project will link Access Arts, the Endeavour Foundation, GBDAGS - the local disability access groups, local schools and theatre groups.

Our Exhibition was hung in the Stanthorpe Civic Centre, the hub of the INTERARTS 97 Festival activities. This ensured we had many interested viewers over the two weeks visit.

Back at home to re-connect in a whirlwind visit with projects past and future and the planning of the next leg of "tracking the blue sheep". This time I was fortunate to have Elizabeth Navratil also travelling as part of the tour. She certainly keep me sane through many an interesting patch.

### Rockhampton

The exhibition was launched here with much interest aroused over the week that it was hung. We were fortunate to be able to include two local artists, Tim Slater and Symon Ward, works which were of a high standard. We experienced initial problems with our communication and support network here, but by the end of our stay further links had been established and the concept of a future project left to be brewed over.

### Maryborough

Initially our contacts here were minimal but the community quickly rallied around and our workshop was very well attended, with great interest in the possibility of further projects encouraged.

We were upset to find that long term AAL and DADAA regional contact, Deslie Maitland had had an accident and was bed ridden in hospital with two broken arms and one broken leg.

## PROJECT MANAGER'S REPORT

It is predicted that she would be remaining there for at least the next four months. Letters are greatly welcomed, to assist her in passing away the hours and to give her some sense of the rest of the world's happenings. Postage Address for Deslie:

Ms Deslie Maitland, c/- St Stephens Private Hospital, PO Box 798, MARYBOROUGH QLD 4650

### Gympie

We received strong organised support from the Gympie community. The workshop participants had not had any drama participation in the past and we saw some fantastic work develop over the two days. The Gympie network is very interested in on-going collaboration and a proposed performance project has been put forward as a suggested beginning.

Back home once again I revamped

By  
Scotin Monkivitch

the Touring Exhibition for the next leg of it's travels. On Monday, 25th August "tracking the blue sheep" set off to Perth to be part of the DADAA (WA) "Achy Breaky Art" Festival. Upon it's return it moves to Japan to be hung at the "Shake Hands, Share Hearts" Disability in the Arts Festival and then arrives back in Australia to be part of the 'dare' National Community Arts Conference, to be held in Brisbane at the end of November. A fantastic conclusion to a Tour which will give Access Arts and our Artists huge National and International recognition.

### River City Dance Festival

Several Access Arts members will be involved in the Ausdance River City Dance Festival, taking place over the first three weeks of September. They will be performing as part of the "City Scope" program on the 19th September. This program will be based through a series of sites in inner city Brisbane. For further information re meeting spot etc, please give me a call.

### Funding Submissions

Submissions are being posted off to the Australia Council this week to fund the first stages of Art and Environment Projects in both Ipswich and Toowoomba. We are also hoping to submit an application for the first stage of a performance project in Gympie.

I am writing a submission to the Dance Board of the Australia Council to support an intensive dance project with a small number of our members who are interested in extending their dance skills. If this is successful we will be working together during the beginning few months of 1998. Fingers crossed that these applications are successful!!

### Uniting Church Banner Project

Workshops are to begin in September within three Uniting Church Aged Care residences. The end result of this workshop program will be the production of six beautiful reminiscence silk banners. This project is a pilot program for Access Arts which will hopefully become a regular yearly project.

### Shock of the New '97

Karyn White is presenting a one women show as part of this year's Shock of the New program. A collective of members are also submitting an application to present a piece based on table manners. This is to be a collaborative piece directed by Clive Williams. We wish them all great success.



Karyn White

This month saw the conclusion of Lowana's time at Access Arts as Co-Project Manager. A difficult time for me as I lose my "partner in crime". It has been wonderful to be able to work alongside Lowana and I wish her all the very best for her next ventures into the world of Stage Management!!!

## NATURE'S COLUMN

### MEMBERSHIP

Please note that by the 31st October ALL membership fees are due (\$15 Employed, \$10 Concession or \$40 Organisation). A membership renewal form is enclosed with this newsletter, together with a self-addressed envelope. Our membership numbers are increasing at a steady rate with a current membership of over 260. If you have any queries regarding membership, please contact me at the office.

### FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

The Access Arts Fundraising Raffle was drawn on Friday, 15th August at the Champagne Box Lid Auction. The winners were:

- 1 Michael Klug of St Lucia won the two course dinner for four people in his own home, cooked by a Panache Chef.
- 2 Lake Walters of Ashgrove won the second prize of over \$300 worth of computer games, donated by Warner Interactive.
- 3 Mrs Margaret Snip of Sunnybank was the winner of the 10kg block of Cadbury's Dairy Milk Chocolate.

Congratulations to all winners!

We are hereby inviting members to submit proposals for the '98 program. If you have a proposal or any queries please contact Robert Plant at the office. Proposals are to be in writing by the 21st October.



## final touches

an exhibition of Access Arts members selected works

at the  
Chermside Library Gallery  
375 Hamilton Road  
Chermside

on exhibition until  
Wednesday, 10th September.

### GALLERY HOURS:

Mon/Wed/Fri: 10 am - 6 pm  
Tue/Thurs: 10 am - 8 pm  
Sat: 9 am - 2 pm

### ShopMobility Program

On Thursday, 31st July, AMP Shopping Centres, with the assistance of the Qld Office of Disability, launched Australia's first **ShopMobility Program** at Garden City Shopping Centre.

The **ShopMobility Program** represents a \$2 million commitment by AMP to provide quality services and resources to people with limited mobility. It emphasises a wide range of integrated and practical facilities and services. "Designated parking, and a set-down area, is located adjacent to our **ShopMobility** reception centre. The dedicated reception area provides comfortable seating, refreshments, television and a range of other facilities so that those with limited mobility can rest prior to or after their visit to the Centre," explained Mr Jack Ritch, Director and Head of Property, AMP Investments Australia Limited.

This is the most extensive program of its kind ever undertaken by an Australian shopping centre. Garden City have piloted the nationwide AMP Shopping Centres initiative, leading the way for other AMP centres around the country.

## IHOS OPERA / ACCESS ARTS PRODUCTION 1998

The evil is always and everywhere.

Constantine Koukias, Sue Wegner, Dan Mitchell and Jane Mott have been running workshops in voice production, audition techniques and gathering ideas for a new Opera for 1998.

Access Arts members have been involved in intense body and voice work enabling Constantine to explore the possibilities of working with people with a range of abilities. He has visited industrial workshops for people with disabilities and explored systems to suspend people in space. This Opera promises to be over the top with many visual and audio surprises in store for the audience.

While there are only nine on-stage roles, many Access Arts members will be invited to record the sound track to the Opera in early 1998. We are currently looking for funding for this project and busy writing grant applications and seeking sponsors. A special thanks to Sue Wegner for facilitating and initiating these workshops and to all Access Arts members who have made the workshop a happy and memorable experience.

Constantine will return to Hobart in early September, having made many new friends and gained heaps of experience with Access Arts members.



Constantine Koukias with some of the keen workshop participants.

Happy  
Father's Day!

Sunday, 7th  
September 97



## SPAN

SPAN is the abbreviated term for Specific Performing Arts Network. It is a program designed to encourage people with severely limited funds and opportunities to access theatre. In broader terms, SPAN is aimed at selling theatre tickets to events such as opera, ballet, musicals and theatre at the Queensland Performing Arts Complex to organisations/groups representing the interests of people disadvantaged by intellectual, physical, emotional or financial circumstances. It offers live theatre to many people who have never experienced theatre before at a reduced and affordable price.

### Who can participate?

People who are disadvantaged by intellectual, physical, emotional or financial conditions.

### Organisations such as:

Nursing Homes; Missions; Community Neighbourhood Centres; Daycare Programs; Institutions - mental health, intellectually disabled, blind and hearing impaired, disabled; Family and community services; Church services; Volunteers; Youth Services; Youth to frail aged.

### Aims of SPAN

- \* Promote social justice and equal opportunity.
- \* Promote integration, normalisation and independence.
- \* To encourage accessibility to the arts industry.
- \* Provide activities incorporating different art forms for the participation and learning experience to disadvantaged persons.
- \* To assist all age groups to maintain independence, interaction and confidence in the arts.
- \* Assist in making art venues accessible to people with disabilities.

For more information about the SPAN Project, please contact Georgie Salter at QPAT on 3840 7984.

## Cathy's Introduction...

For those who do not know me, my name is Cathy Dart. I have worked with AAI as a Support Worker, Artist, and currently Senior Support Worker. During the last three years I've spoken to many members in relation to the workshops, at functions, or as Robert Plant's assistant.



In 1996 I travelled to Gatton with Robert to facilitate the advocacy workshops for hospitality students.

I am now employed part-time as Robert's assistant promoting the training program.

Additionally, I have been filling Lowana's shoes and gradually taking over part of the Art Path Program and the member's exhibition at the Chermide Library gallery (on exhibition until 10th September).

I am looking forward to the final member's day exhibition and a number of individual exhibitions in the meantime.

## Life

*Life is the greatest gift*

*It is a gift of spirits*

*Happy as the day*

*But even in its hardest times*

*We should be grateful that it is our own.*

*Life is a spark*

*Blown to flame by God's breath*

*If it wasn't for God's will*

*We wouldn't be here.*

*We all have much to be grateful for*

*Colour, as in the sky, the sunrise*

*And the green earth.*

*The gardens with birds and flowers,*

*Friendship of people and pets,*

*Funny stories, tales and laughter,*

*Quiet time and sunsets,*

*Night and stars,*

*Sunrise, and another day.*

*The pain of loss, of body,*

*Can be severe, but it passes...*

*Sadness can enter our lives,*

*But there is always another day.*

*A time to restore us,*

*For a day is love*

*And life itself is love.*

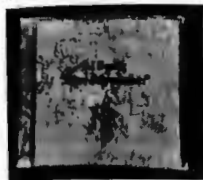
Anne Kahler

—MEMBER'S DAY 1997

All members are invited to participate in  
Member's Day on Saturday, 22nd November.  
Contact Robert Plant for more details.



## Al Smith three day wonder



Al Smith has just released his first self produced CD with the help of friends, Paul Cheesman, Jeff Usher and Don Lebler. A monumental task of song writing, production and original artwork by Al has produced a first class CD titled "three day wonder". With song titles such as 'Empty', 'U Can Tell Me', 'Step Ahead' and 'I'm a V8', the CD offers a lot of musical action for those old rock and rolls/blues fans that just want to get up and dance. Al's musical talents have strengthened with age and his knowledge of the music industry has been of great interest to Access Arts. Al's output clearly shows that he is anything but a 'three day wonder'. Congratulations on a fine album!

The CD's are available from the Access Arts office for only \$20. Support Al by dropping in and picking one up. This is a must for your next party!

### Also on a musical note...

Barry Charles' CD titled "*Beyond Boundaries*" is well worth purchasing. Songs such as "Deep Image" and "Unchained Melody" feature on the album. For information, please contact Barry Charles or Diana Dummatt by mail to PO Box 557, Noosa Heads 4567.



← This outstanding piece was used for the Cairns Sexual Health Project and is now on the Hopevale Hospital entrance. It has been created by Hopevale Artists, Rosanne Deeral and Silas Gordon.

## VISUAL ARTS WORKSHOP INSTALLATION EVENT

This year the Visual Arts workshops will conclude with a Installation on the little beach on the Brisbane Riverbank at the Captain John Burke Park, Kangaroo Point. The Installation project, devised by Takafumi Nagamura, aims to develop the workshop participants' skill involving conceptual art form progress. The theme of "time" which was introduced at the visual arts workshops in the beginning of the year will be followed through and reach a conclusion on the 4th October.

These workshops will encourage AAI members to think three dimensionally and take two dimensional work into the environment. If you want to be a part of this exciting project enroll now! Come and be a part of the end of term event!



## Epilepsy - What About It?

An exhibition of  
Posters

### Opening Launch

10:00 - 10:30 am on  
Monday, 8th September  
in the  
King George Foyer,  
Brisbane City Hall.

Followed by morning tea  
served in the courtyard at  
10:30 am.

### Exhibition dates:

8th - 14th September 1997

An Epilepsy Queensland Inc  
Project, supported by the  
Brisbane City Council.

### RSVP:

Wednesday, 3rd September  
Epilepsy Qld - 3852 2850

Rubes" By Leigh Rubin



All was not disabled prior to parking, but with a little help, he would meet most of the necessary requirements.

## Access Arts Staff

**Executive Director**  
Neal Price

**Program Manager**  
Robert Plaut

**Administrative Officer/Newsletter Editor**  
Natalie Burns

**Project Manager**  
Scotia Monkivich

**Regional Indigenous Project Officer**  
John Harvey

**Art Path/Individual Support Workers**  
Cathy Dart  
Deborah McArthur

**Home Page Address:**  
<http://www.ozemail.com.au/~accarts>  
E-mail: [accarts@ozemail.com.au](mailto:accarts@ozemail.com.au)

**Access Arts Office:**  
Toombul Shire Hall  
1141 Sandgate Road, Nundah 4012  
(PO Box 624, Nundah Qld 4012)  
Phone: (07) 3260 6306  
Fax: (07) 3266 1577  
TTY: (07) 3260 6630  
Office Hours: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

## Management Committee:

**President**  
Bob Williams

**Vice-President**  
Lesla Hepburn

**Secretary**  
Ric Travaskes

**Treasurer**  
Michael Pini

## Ordinary Members

Thomas Bradley  
Jeremy Hearn  
Dianne Hill  
Deborah McArthur  
Neal Price  
Tim Ware

Access Arts Inc is supported by the Federal Government through the Community Cultural Development Board of the Australia Council and the Commonwealth Department of Health & Family Services; the Queensland Government through the Minister for the Arts, The Arts Office, the Department of Families, Youth & Community Care, the Queensland Health Department through the Cairns District Health Service; and the Local Government through the Brisbane City Council's Community Arts Unit and Community Development Branch and the Ipswich City Council's Cultural Development Branch.

Access Arts Inc also gratefully acknowledges the generous support of Pinache, Warner Interactive, Cadbury's, Royal Institute of Architects, Metropolitan Senior Citizens Centre, United Distilleries, Avonard, all the Champagne Box & Lid Artists, our numerous volunteers and office support.

## September - December Calendar:

- ♣ *final touches* Exhibition, Charmside Library ..... 21st August - 10th September
- ♣ Stage X Festival ..... 27th August - 7th September  
(Contact QPAT for more information on (07) 3840 7444)
- ♣ Aboriginal River City Dance Festival ..... 1st - 21st September  
(Contact Ausdance for more information on (07) 3864 5677)
- ♣ Workshop Artsworkers Debrief ..... Sunday, 6th September
- ♣ Old Christmas carol of Music Choir Performance ..... Sunday, 14th September
- ♣ City Scares Dance Performance Riverside Centre ..... Friday, 19th September
- ♣ End of Year Workshop Performance ..... Sunday, 4th October
- ♣ Sausage Sizzle ..... Sunday, 4th October
- ♣ Mental Health Week ..... 19th - 25th October
- ♣ Shake Hands, Share Hearts Festival - Japan ..... 25th October - 3rd November
- ♣ Shock the New Festival ..... 26th October - 1st November
- ♣ dare National Community Arts Conference Brisbane ..... 19th - 21st November
- ♣ Metro Arts ..... 19th November - 5th December
- ♣ M ..... Saturday, 22nd November
- ♣ Open ..... Saturday, 22nd November
- ♣ Newsletter Deadline ..... Friday, 14th November
- ♣ Summer Newsletter Postal ..... Monday, 1st December
- ♣ *Open* *Public Review (Office Closed)* ..... Wednesday, 17th December
- ♣ Office Closed for Christmas ..... 20th - 28th December

## The Transfence

(a bulls story in Haiku)

*Heifer in the paddock  
Behind high barbed wire fence,  
Bull on the other side.*

*Heifer cries out loud  
Hannibal, jump over!  
Answer: Fence too high!*

*Heifer walks away  
Dejected, disappointed  
Hannibal won't come.*

*Calls again to him,  
Hannibal, you must jump now!  
Bull paws the ground.*

*Backs fifty paces,  
Charges, jumps, to his surprise  
Is over the fence.*

*Heifer snuggles up  
Oh, Bully, I was longing!  
Make me happy!*

*The bull is grunting,  
I am "H A N N I" now for sure.  
Ouch, I am sore!*

*On the fence yonder,  
Part of my name hangs there!  
It fell asunder!*

Rudi Stiebritz



# SUMMER 1997 NEWSLETTER

*Access Arts Inc  
would like to wish  
all AAS  
Newsletter  
readers a Merry  
Christmas and a  
Prosperous New  
Year in 1998.*



*from Access Arts  
Board and Staff  
Members*



**Toyoharu Ueda**

Toyoharu is a traditional Japanese paper-cutting Artist. The postcard above is an example of his outstanding work, made from one sheet of paper using traditional paper-cutting techniques. Our Director, Neal Price, was given the opportunity of meeting Toyoharu whilst in Japan and also brought back a number of postcards of Toyoharu's work. Toyoharu's work is very well known throughout Japan.



We are the team at Access Arts,  
even though we all face challenges,  
we can dance, paint and all take part,  
through our art we can send out a message.

Access Arts creates new experiences,  
we learn to be performers,  
we are made to forget our differences,  
through the arts we're social reformers.

With Access Arts we sculpt and paint,  
developing and creating masterpieces,  
Pro Hart or Whitley we ain't,  
but we can challenge societies' biases.

At Access Arts we are seen as able,  
we expand our dreams, hopes and aspirations.  
Our inabilities are all a fable,  
we can't wait to show our new creation.

*Brady J Young*



Summer is the best time to slow down and engage in quiet pastimes so that is why, with its approach, Access Arts staff are working harder than ever to get all the work done for the end of year break. Once again everyone has been working on a wide variety of projects and performances that have involved many hours of work and some travel.

I have been to Japan with Scotia to attend the Art Festa Shake Hands - Shake Hearts Festival in Kita-Kyushu and to Tokyo to present Access Arts at the Asian Winds Festival. Both Scotia and I held workshops in Kita-Kyushu and made many friends. My speech on the work of Access Arts was well received with interest created by visitors to the Festival from Nagasaki, Osaka and Korea. There were several highlights during the festival. I visited a Special School and Rehabilitation Centre and went Sweet Potato Digging with the school children who were all partnered by other kids from the local

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

school. In Japan there are few times when integration between able-bodied and people with disabilities occur and this was one of those "rare" times. The schools get together three times, firstly to plant the seeds, then to water the potatoes and then to dig them up, bake them and eat them. The commitment of Art Festa members was strong and sincere which helped to develop an energetic and enjoyable community cultural festival that provided many opportunities for Artists with disabilities.

The tracking the blue sheep exhibition was housed at the Kita-Kyushu Art Museum with over 400 people attending during the week. This exhibition gave a international profile to eight Access Arts artists. There were over 120 comments written

I also saw a performance of Japanese Drummers and Japanese Traditional Dragon Dancers. Both performances were impressive and I hope to show photos and videos of them to as many Access Arts members as I can.

There has been heaps of action in Brisbane with the visiting Indonesian Dancers conducting workshops and preparing for a performance. The Shock of the New Festival presented Karyn White in a performance of "I'm Ultra Screaming" and an Access Arts production of "Behaving Badly - Eating Nicely". Both Performances may be seen again at other venues and events.

Access Arts' visual artists have also achieved a high profile with many small and large exhibitions across Brisbane. Congratulations to Ross Barber who has succeeded in receiving an Arts Office Grant to conduct a Visual Arts residency at Cooperations in Luxemburg in 1998. We look forward to seeing and hearing about the work he completes there.

I hope Summer rejuvenates us all, with many new ideas created from members for next year's program.

By

Neal Price

in Japanese in our comments book and many enquiries about our internet home page.

## AUDITION FOR...

Das Bese ist immer und überall  
The Evil is always and Everywhere

IHOS  
OPERA

New work Premier! Ever wanted to fly, sing in an Opera and travel the world? All these may be possible if you join in the auditions for Access Arts' new production!

A collaboration between Access Arts, IHOS Opera and the Queensland Performing Arts Trust to develop a new touring operatic work for an ensemble of nine people with disabilities will be undertaken in 1998. Each company brings to the Opera project a great deal of experience in several complementary areas of arts practice. All have experience in Community Cultural Development processes that have resulted in outstanding community productions and have gained a reputation as being innovative companies that seek to create new opportunities that impact across a broad social environment.

While there are only nine on-stage positions, there are a number of roles for singers to join in the recording of the sound track in early February. A final decision for the selection of ensemble members will be made by the Director, Constantine Koukias. Auditions will be held during the week of 9th February 1998. A copy of your CV and Photo should be sent to the office by 17th December 1997. The Auditions will be short listed.

There I felt the air  
A feeling of no care,  
Where love was abound  
There was no despair.

Here I felt such freedom,  
In fields of brown,  
The beauty of a kingdom  
Where animals roam abound.

Throughout the land a river flowed,  
Peaceful, wide, in sunlight glowed,  
Bound by forests of foliage green  
A continuous line formiles to be seen.

Dotted amongst the scattered trees  
Were houses and gardens of colour and bees  
Which witnessed all the changing seasons  
of floods and droughts without no reasons.



Please note the Access Arts office will be closed for Christmas between 20th - 28th December.

All staff (except for Natalie) will be on annual leave between 19 December '97 - 19 January '98.

Wishing you all the best  
for the Festive Season  
and a happy and  
prosperous New Year!

from the staff of Access Arts

### MEMBER'S EXHIBITION

The Member's Exhibition at Gallery Four, Metro Arts will be open during the following times:

Tues, 2 December 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Wed, 3 December 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

*Please hurry!!!  
This is your last chance to view this  
exhibition!*

### Proposed Deaf Artist Exhibition

Thurston Crump, a Bachelor of Visual Arts Student at James Cook University (Townsville), is interested in contacting any other deaf artists or students who may be interested in organising an exhibition.

Contact Thurston Crump for more details on TTY (077) 790 433. Email [thurston@artlover.com](mailto:thurston@artlover.com). Free Call 1800 641 571 or Fax (077) 755 251.

### Hand Luggage

Ross Barber is seeking proposals for *Hand Luggage*, a touring exhibition to be carried to Europe in Ross' briefcase and exhibited in Luxembourg, Oxford and other venues during May and June 1998.

Ross is seeking ten artists for *Hand Luggage* in any media that will each fit into a space of 145 x 80 x 70 mm. Transcend and challenge the limitation of the space provided.

All proposals should be forwarded to Ross by 31 January 1998 and works completed by 31 March 1998.

For further details please contact Ross Barber on telephone (07) 5478 9197, or email Ross on [doubleelvis@peg.apc.org](mailto:doubleelvis@peg.apc.org), or write to PO Box 29, Eudlo Q 4554.

If you would like something published in the next edition of this newsletter, please send details to Natalie by Friday, 6th March 1998.



## PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

### Disability Awareness Training Program

Our pilot training program with the Treasury Casino "Interacting with People with Disabilities" has been very well attended. The Casino is keen to schedule regular workshops next year. Each of the participants were given a company evaluation form to complete and the feedback was excellent, with no criticisms or suggestions to improve the course.

Our pilot training program with the Sheraton Hotel is scheduled for 17 December and we've been assured of good attendance numbers.

If anyone can think of more companies that we could target for this vitally important training, please contact myself at the office.

### Indonesia Cultural Exchange Project

Mid-October we began our cultural exchange project with the dancers from Indonesia, the Brisbane City Council and BEMAC. There have been seven workshops conducted by the Indonesians in traditional dance. On Saturday, 15 November workshop participants held a performance at the Pesta Desa Festival. This was a great experience for both our members and the dance company. Both

cultures seemed to gain valuable experience. Over the past five weeks, the Indonesian dancers have not only such as BEMAC and Rock n' Roll Circus. Access Arts took the Indonesians to meet Top Moves on the Sunshine Coast and to a school on the Gold Coast. We also hosted a barbecue which was well attended and a lot of fun.

### Member's Day

Member's Day was held on Saturday, 22 November at Gallery Four of Metro Arts and was well attended. The program for 1998 was presented to members and is now in the final

By  
**Robert Plant**

stages before being sent off to the printers.

The 1998 program will be posted out to members in January. Any members who need details of next year's program before January, please contact the office. We have reverted back to holding three terms (of seven weeks) per year, instead of last year's two term program with Master Classes in between.

Term 1 will begin on 21st March and will include: Drama; Music/Dance (combined); Multi-Arts; and Visual Arts. Term 1 will end on 2nd May. Term 2 will begin on 23rd May and will finish on 4th July. Term 3 will begin on 5th September and will finish on 17 October.



Treasury Casino Staff role-play as a person experiencing a visual disability



Treasury Casino Staff at the Pilot Training Program

## THANK YOU!

*Special thanks go to the following people that have helped us throughout the year....*

Ross Barber, Melissa Betteridge, Lel Black, Jim Brodie, Joanna Callaghan, Edward Davis, Linda Dennis, Casey Dogan, Greg Ferrington, Cheryl Freeman, Les Jensen, Maryann Long, Vincent Long, Deborah McArthur, Dan Mitchell, Jane Mott, Takefumi Nagamura, Ivy Plant, Marian Plant, John Stibbs, Imre Toldi, Ric Treweekes, Colleen Wall, Sue Wegner, plus the many, many more volunteers, artists, members and supporters.

*Thank you from the staff and Management Committee of Access Arts.*



## REGIONAL INDIGENOUS PROJECT OFFICER'S REPORT

Conference was to coordinate two art workshops around the issues of sexual health and mental health.

The two works developed during the Conference were exhibited at the Pacific Rim Adolescent Health Conference in Sydney.

The Conference provided me with an opportunity to maintain and strengthen my links within Cape York Peninsula. One of the major resolutions to come from the conference was the recognition of the connection between Indigenous people and the land and how this connection

affects health.

### John Oxley Memorial Hospital - Workshops

We have conducted the first three workshops at JOMH. The workshops have been very successful. The activities were enjoyed by all those participating. More workshops shall be conducted this year and four workshops are planned for January. I feel that all those involved in the workshops will gain a lot.

### Mental Health Awareness Project

I have met with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Steering Committee to discuss my proposal to conduct a series of mental health art

workshops in Brisbane, Palm Island and in the Torres Strait. The proposal was well received by the Steering Committee. Final negotiations will need to be undertaken before we commence the project. The workshops are planned for May next year.

### Native Title

Given the current debate on Native Title, I thought it would be appropriate to talk a little about the issue of co-existence as opposed to extinguishment. First of all, let me state that in this term, co-existence is used in the context of legal rights, not people.

In 1996 the High Court held that rights granted under a pastoral lease are not necessarily inconsistent with native title rights. So, it is possible that some native title rights may co-exist with the rights of a pastoral lease.

The High Court added that where a native titleholder and a pastoral lessee conflict, the rights of the native title holder would 'give way' to the pastoral lessee. So the rights of the native titleholder are reduced to 'what's left over' after the rights of the pastoral lessee.

In terms of extinguishment, this would lead to the native titleholder (Indigenous people) having considerably less rights than what currently exists.

I hope this helps you to understand Native Title and the meaning of coexistence and extinguishment in this context.

### National Social Health Evaluation & Communication Workshop - Adelaide

The main purpose of the workshop was to work towards determining an agreed evaluation strategy for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Emotional and Social Well-Being (Mental Health) Action Plan of individual projects funded under the Action Plan (the RIPO Position being one of these projects). The workshops provided me with an opportunity to meet with staff of the Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services, as well as Indigenous mental health workers from across Australia.

It was pleasing to note the support of the work Access Arts has been doing to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people gain access to culturally appropriate arts and cultural programs.

### Pacific Rim Indigenous Adolescent Health Conference - Cooktown

I was recently invited by Apunipima, Cape York Health Council to attend the Pacific Rim Indigenous Adolescent Health Conference. My role at the

By  
*John Harvey*

My name is Joanna Callaghan and I am presently completing work experience in the office at Access Arts. I was appointed by Jobnet who support people experiencing disabilities in finding employment. I am working in the office on Monday's, Wednesday's and Thursday's until the 17th December. I enjoy drama and am keen to pursue this ambition.

Joanna Callaghan



# Merry Christmas

## CHAMPAGNE BOX LID AUCTION FINANCIAL REPORT

### INCOME:

Champagne Boxes/Lids Sold	\$11,979.00
Door/Bar Sales	\$2,799.70
Raffle Proceeds	\$1,210.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$15,988.70</b>

### EXPENDITURE:

Admin (Piv/Postage/Stationery)	\$649.44
Catering/Venue Hire	\$1,778.53
Advertising/Promotion	\$540.73
Travel/Freight	\$832.91
Materials	\$430.44
Bank Fees/Associated Costs	\$221.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$4,453.05</b>

### NET PROFIT =

**\$11,535.65\***

\* This figure has been deposited into the Access Arts Inc Building Trust Fund.

The Building Trust Fund currently has a balance of \$17,632.07. Please don't forget that we are constantly in need of donations to this fund for it to achieve its aim. A donation form is enclosed with this newsletter.

### Monday 1997 - April 1998 Calendar

Staff Yearly Review (Office Closed)	Wed, 17th December
Office Closed for Christmas	20th - 28th December
New Year's Day (Office Closed)	Thurs, 1st January
Australia Day (Office Closed)	Mon, 26th January
Uniting Church Project Reconvenes	Wed, 28th January
Jobs Oxy Project Reconvenes	Thurs, 29th January
IHOs Opens Project	Thurs, 5th February
Ipswich Project	Mon, 9th February
IHOs Opens Auction	Mon, 9th - Fri, 13th February
Artsworker Training Days	Thurs, 19th & Fri, 20th February
Oxy Project Commences	Sat, 28th February
Autumn Newsletter Deadline	Fri, 6th March
AGM	Sat, 7th March
Term 1 Starts	Sat, 21st March
Inala Sculpture Project	Sat, 21st March
Autumn Newsletter	Mon, 23rd March
Easter (no workdays)	Fri, 10th - Mon, 13th April
Chris Commences	Tues, 21st April
Term 1 Ends (Savage Sizzle, Detrieff & Feedings)	Sat, 2nd May

### Red Hot Fibre Show 98

**Who:** Australian artists and craftspeople working with the medium of handmade paper and/or natural fibres.

**Details:** Expressions of interest are invited by the Red Hot Fibre Collective to participate in an exhibition which will display the diversity and versatility of natural fibres in innovative, contemporary papermaking, basketry and related fibre arts. The range of work will include: artists books, sculptures, collages, installations, baskets, vessels, kites and lamps. Enquiries about the show are welcomed, particularly from artists and craftspeople who may wish to exhibit large sculptures or installations.

**Contact:** Gavin McCullagh on Phone/Fax (07) 3357 7890 or Britt Knudsen-Owens on phone (07) 3399 7724 for more details





**Desley Maitland & "Nikki"**

**S**adly, on Sunday, 23rd November Access Arts member, Desley Maitland, passed away after a lengthy stay in hospital.

Desley has been involved with Access Arts for a number of years and was also the Maryborough representative for the Queensland DADAA Network.

Not only was Desley involved with Access Arts and DADAA, she was also heavily committed to various other community organisations and held many executive positions on these committees.

Her determination and sense of humour will be admired and reflected upon for many years to come. Her impact within the disability sector will be missed, along with her loyalty to the organisations and committees she was involved with.

On behalf of the Management Committee and Staff of Access Arts, I would like to send my sincere condolences to Desley's family and friends, and the pet cat, Nikki, that she loved so dearly.

Robert Plant



## **"Adelaide Lighting the Way" Lantern Project**

Arts in Action is coordinating this exciting community project which will culminate in a lantern parade on the celebratory opening night of the High Beam Festival (Friday, 1st May 1998).

This is a collaborative project between Arts in Action and SPARC Disability Foundation. The project is designed to activate communities to make lanterns for a lantern parade to be held in May 1998 within the City of Adelaide. The major culmination of this project (the parade) will become part of the opening celebrations of the inaugural biennial High Beam Festival, which will highlight the creativity of people with a disability.

This project is intended to facilitate involvement at every skill level, from people who live with multiple and profound disabilities through to professional artists or groups of artists working together, and will model initiatives where people with a disability are truly "Lighting the Way".

For more information, please contact Tony Doyle at Arts in Action on (08) 8224 0799.



## **Adelaide Global Beats**

I am dust,  
I am water,  
I am a combination  
of blood and breath.  
My frame is bone  
my soul alone  
it's a journey  
we all must take,  
till we return,  
to the day of clay.

Dean Pusell

## **And by the way...**

• Lowana Mocham has received a grant from the Arts Office for a visual and movement based theatre piece involving artists experiencing disability and able-bodied artists.

• Congratulations to Karen White and her successful *Shock of the New* piece titled "The White Project" at La Boite Theatre.

• Lisa Hepburn has received a grant from the Arts Office for her "Red Hot Fibre Collective", an exhibition of natural fibres and handmade paper at the Mt Cootulla Botanic Gardens.

• Congratulations to Liz Newman on her successful "Montage of Fortune" production this year.

• Ross Barber has received a grant from the Arts Office for an Artist in Residency at Cooperations in Luxembourg.

Best Wishes  
for a  
Merry Christmas

## Meditation

*Meditation is said to be an art,  
it helps not to fall apart.*

*You may sit down now on a cushion,  
or in any comfortable position.*

*Do concentrate now on an object,  
but better still, do not use a subject.*

*The nine doors\* of the body should be closed,  
you can do this, being not opposed.*

*Then draw all thoughts into door ten\*\*.  
What do you think should happen then?*

*As soon as you know the mind is still,  
you can feel the inflow of God's will.*

*God waits inside for your contact,  
be assured, it is a fact.*

*Once you have achieved this end,  
you should be happy and content.*

*Rudi Steibitz*

- \* Nine doors: Two ears, two eyes, two nose holes,  
mouth and two openings of the bottom.
- \*\* Tenth door: The third eye or the Ajna Chakra. The  
third eye lays in the middle of the forehead.



## Add these CD's to your Christmas Stocking!!!

Jeff Usher's new Jazz album  
"From Leaps to Bounds" is now  
available. Contact Jeff on phone  
(07) 3844 3752 or Jazz Worx at 54  
Latrobe Terrace, Paddington 4064  
or phone (07) 3367 0985 to  
purchase your copy.

Al Smith's self produced CD  
"three day wonder" with the  
help of friends, Paul Cheesman,  
Jeff Usher and Don Lebler is also  
an ideal Christmas gift. A monumental task of song  
writing, production and original artwork by Al has  
produced a first class CD. The CD 's are available  
from the Access Arts office for only \$20.

### Access Arts Staff

**Executive Director**  
Neal Price

**Program Manager**  
Robert Plant

**Administration Officer/Newsletter Editor**  
Natalie Barnes

**Project Manager**  
Scotia Monkivitch

**Regional Indigenous Project Officer**  
John Harvey

**Art Path/Individual Support Worker**  
Cathy Dart

**Office Volunteer**  
Joanna Callaghan

Email: [accarts@ozemail.com.au](mailto:accarts@ozemail.com.au)

**Access Arts Office:**  
Toombul Shire Hall  
1141 Sandgate Road, Nundah 4012  
(PO Box 624, Nundah Qld 4012)  
Phone: (07) 3260 6306  
Fax: (07) 3266 1577  
TTY: (07) 3260 6630  
Office Hours: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

### Management Committee:

**President**  
Bob Williams

**Vice-President**  
Lesla Hepburn

**Secretary**  
Ric Trevaskes

**Treasurer**  
Michael Pini

**Executive Director**  
Neal Price

**Ordinary Members**  
Thomas Bradley  
Jeremy Hearn  
Dianne Hill  
Deborah McArthur  
Tim Ware

Access Arts Inc is supported by the  
Federal Government through the  
Community Cultural Development  
Board of the Australia Council and the  
Commonwealth Department of Health  
& Family Services; the  
Queensland Government through the  
Minister for the Arts, The Arts Office  
the Department of Families, Youth &  
Community Care, the Queensland  
Health Department through the Cairns  
District Health Service; and the  
Local Government through the  
Brisbane City Council's Community  
Arts Branch and Community  
Development Branch and the Ipswich  
City Council's Cultural Development  
Branch.

Access Arts Inc also gratefully  
acknowledges the generous support of  
our Workshop and Project Artists,  
Support Workers, numerous volunteers  
and office support workers.



## The New 1997 Management Committee

Congratulations and welcome to all new management committee members who will take up their new role to develop the work of Access Arts across Queensland. Each new member will bring skills to the committee that will benefit the company in creating new networks with arts, welfare and education organisations. Their knowledge of social networks, international trends, funding, educational institutions, legal matters, business structures and the arts industry will promote and develop many of the strategies that members have identified in the Access Arts Five Year Plan. As the constitution states, the committee now enters a process where half of its numbers will be elected each year. This creates a cohesive and consistent process that will ensure stability and information sharing between committee members and each new board.

The Arts Law Centre has developed a series of lectures and workshop for management committees of incorporated bodies for them to better understand their responsibilities and duties. The new committee will be invited to attend as they prepare themselves for a busy time as active members of the committee.

The role of the committee to undertake fundraising strategies that support the Access Arts Building Trust Fund or to develop and strengthen international and national links with other community bodies offers committee participants a unique opportunity to learn new skills and gain a valuable overview of the industry influences that affect Access Arts and its future development.



The 1997 Management Committee (l to r): Deborah McArthur, Jeremy Hearn, Lesa Hepburn, Bob Williams (President), Dianne Hill, Thomas Bradley, Michael Pini, Ric Trevaskes. (Tim Ware - Absent)

### In this Edition...

- New Management Committee
- Program Manager's Report
- Project Managers' Report
- New Regional Project Officer
- We're on the Internet!
- Poem by Bill Thomas
- Discounts for AAI Members
- Competition Details
- Cigar Box Lid Auction info
- Advisory Group to MC



### con BRIO

The Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University, is forming a Choir to promote the joy of singing for all those who have a disability and vocal ability. Dr John Nickson, Conductor of the Choir, will be holding auditions in early April with performances in September.

The Choir plan to perform at a variety of events leading up to the year 2000 Olympiad in Sydney. Become part of this exciting project and be one of the first to audition. Call the Access Arts office if you require support to go to the audition. It can be tough going to an audition all on your own - we would love to help.

For more information about the Choir, please telephone Moira Crowson on (07) 3281 0704.

## Calling All Writers Throughout Queensland!

Unpublished writers from Queensland are cordially invited to submit short stories, from fifteen hundred to three thousand words, on any subject for entry in a writing competition supported by the Queensland Writers Centre and run by the "Association of Writers at Work Inc" Toowoomba.

A cash prize of one hundred dollars, plus two runner up prizes of fifty dollars will be on offer. The winning entry may be published in the Toowoomba Chronicle. All entries will be appraised for inclusion in a magazine, with an emphasis on five minute fiction, produced by "Writers at Work".

Entries close on Friday, 16 May 1997. Copies of the "Conditions of Entry" are available from the Access Arts office. For further information, please contact Bill Gallagher on (076) 326 332 or Darcy Condon on (076) 961 393.

## Rehana Peters

Welcome to Far North Queensland Access Arts member Rehana Peters. Rehana has exhibited in Cairns and is well known in Far North Queensland as an artist who's work is original and creates its own standard. Rehana was introduced to Access Arts during the DADAA conference through Graft 'n' Arts. She travelled to Brisbane with her mother to attend the conference and meet up with people from across Queensland. Rehana attends TAFE where she is studying printmaking, painting, ceramics and textiles. Her father helps frame her hundreds of works, all of which are building up around the house. Five of her works have been included in the Tracking the Blue Sheep Exhibition due for touring in early April.



## Attention all Visual Artists!

The Sarina Annual Visual Arts Competition is coming up. They are seeking entries in painting, photography, fibre arts and have a special youth section. Entry booklets are available from the Access Arts office.

## "Mother Nature"

Across the field of corn,  
a mother lay with her lamb, just  
born,  
feeble and weak at first.  
It milked from its mother to  
quench its thirst.

Nature had given life to a foal,  
and strength and freedom were  
its life's goal.  
As it stumbled and hopped with  
need,  
to be with its mother to feed.

A fresh born calf had lost its  
mother,  
its one and only true lover.  
So an oath was sworn by nature,  
to give life and care as its  
creator.

W A Thomas

## Discounts for Access Arts Members!

La Boite Theatre have kindly offered concession ticket discounts to all Access Arts members. Members are advised to book ahead on the Booking Office number and please make sure to inform La Boite of your membership status.

Artistscare (93-105 Margaret Street, Brisbane) have also kindly offered a 10% discount to all Access Arts members. Please note you will need to show your membership card when purchasing from Artistscare.

## Record Membership!

Access Arts now has over 275 members! Thanks go to all those new members for your support. Thanks also to those members who have renewed their membership for another year.

## 1997 Cigar Box Lid Exhibition &amp; Auction

Following the success of last year's fundraiser, Access Arts is once again holding a Cigar Box Lid Exhibition and Auction.

The exhibition of artists' works will be staged at various prominent venues during the week of the 8th August 1997, culminating in an Auction at the Royal Institute of Architects on the night of 15th August 1997.

Access Arts members are invited to participate by:

- painting and/or sculpting a cigar box lid;
- helping in organisation of the event;
- selling raffle tickets;
- distributing cigar box lids to artists.

To extend on last year's theme, we have a limited number of champagne boxes in addition to the lids. We will be inviting established and well known Australian artists to paint/sculpture these boxes.

Your participation is essential for this project to be a success. The funds raised from this event will go into the Building Trust Fund, endeavouring to purchase a wheelchair accessible performance and art studio for our members and the wider community.

Please contact Ric or Deborah (on Tuesday mornings at the office) to offer your suggestions and welcomed participation.

## tracking the blue sheep

a regional touring exhibition  
exploring cultural diversity

opening 6th april 2 pm

at

ipswich community gallery

humanities building south & nicholas street  
ipswich

rspv: Suzanne Matulich ipswich city council  
3810 6647

access arts brisbane 3260 6306

exhibition continues until  
15th april

## POSITIONS VACANT

Voluntary New Farmers Wanted!

Northely Street City Farm is looking for people to work in our permaculture orchard and vegetable gardens

### The Positions

We are looking for people to work as organic gardeners, forest workers, worm workers, newsletter writers, bookkeepers, story tellers, artists, planners, listeners, seed raisers, child carers, mulchers, tea makers, builders, hole diggers, poultry farmers, photographers etc, etc.

### Qualifications and Previous Experience

You simply need a willingness to have fun, learn and share. Whatever skills and experience you have will be helpful. Wanting to work with others cooperatively is essential.

### Rewards

Everything harvested from the farm is shared amongst the workers. You'll receive fresh organic fruit and vegetables, new skills and friends, laughter and cups of tea, a worthwhile goal and sense of satisfaction.

### How to Apply?

Come along to Northely Street City Farm any Thursday or Tuesday morning or Sunday afternoon (after 3:00 pm). We will make you feel welcome. If these times don't suit, or if you'd like more information, please phone Richard (3252 2844) or Morag (3857 8775).

### About Northely Street City Farm

Northely Street City Farm is on a one hectare Brisbane City Council park at Northely Street, Windsor. More than 500 fruit trees, shrubs, herbs, bee and butterfly food trees, and ground covers have been planted. The organic vegetable gardens supply farm workers with food.

The farm is run by a community based organisation which has been given Council approval to establish the farm. The farm's management committee meets on the second Tuesday of every month. Everyone is welcome at these meetings. We like to work as a cooperative where decision making is shared and everyone's ideas are listened to. New projects and community partnerships are welcome.

### Where?

Second street on the left past Royal Brisbane Hospital, going out of town. It's the park with all the trees!

### Regional Project Officer

Good news for Access Arts as it has attracted funding from Federal Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Health to employ a Regional Project Officer. This initiative builds on funding received from Arts Queensland and responds to requests from regional Queensland for an Access Arts presence across the state.

Welcome to Access Arts newest staff members John Harvey and Libby Sara.

John joins us from Kooemba Jdarra Indigenous Performing Arts where he worked as administration assistant. His experience in working with communities in the Philippines and indigenous communities set him in good stead to undertake regional development work with both isolated and urban indigenous communities. John will spend the first pilot year developing structures and projects that will make AAI programs more accessible to indigenous and regional communities and will create a data base for the organisation on the types of disabilities indigenous people are experiencing in regional Queensland. While part of the year will be spent in South East Queensland, several weeks will be spent in Cairns from mid May.

Libby Sara is well known in community art circles as an administrator, organiser and artworker. She will join the Access Arts team for a period of three months to establish a support system and network for the regional work. Her skills as negotiator, researcher and resource person will be of great value to Access Arts as it enters into a new service area of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health.

### Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry)

#### Developing Arts Audiences

The Australian Key Centre for Cultural and Media Policy and the Australia Council are seeking applications for an Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry) (APA[1]) for Doctoral research over three years commencing in 1997.

The Award attracts a stipend of \$20,180 tax free per annum (Indexed annually), as well as research funding of \$10,000 per annum from the Australia Council.

Deadline for applications is Monday, 28 April 1997 and further information can be obtained from:

Ms Karen Perkins, Australian Key Centre for Cultural and Media Policy  
Faculty of Humanities, Griffith University, Nathan Qld 4111

Ph: (07) 3875 5350

Fax: (07) 3875 5511

email: K.Perkins@hum.gu.edu.au

#### Cultural and Media Policy Research Prize 1997

The Australian Key Centre for Cultural and Media Policy is offering a prize for the best research project in the areas of cultural and media policy.

The competition is open to students enrolled in a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree at Griffith University the Old University of Technology or the University of Queensland.

The prize for the best research project will be \$2,000. The research project should be 8,000 words. The deadline for submission of the proposed topic is 31 July, with the submission of the research project due on 30 November.

For more information please contact Bev Jeppesen on Phone (07) 3875 7772 or fax (07) 3875 5511 or email B.Jeppesen@hum.gu.edu.au

The members, Management Committee and staff would like to take this opportunity to farewell our friends and colleagues, Greg Andrews and Kathryn Lowe of Arts Queensland. Thank you for your support. We hope you have a well earned rest before embarking on future endeavours.

### And By The Way....

Access Arts Secretary, Natalie Barnes, recently became engaged to Harness Racing Trainer, Darryl Gross. They will be married in February next year. Natalie also recently won a eight day honeymoon package in Vanuatu! Congratulations Natalie & Darryl!

Speaking of Engagements, Artworker, Mylan Soriano, has also recently announced her engagement to her long-time partner, Steve Peska. Steve and Mylan will be married in September this year. Congratulations to Mylan and Steve from all at Access Arts!



### Snug Harbour's Sit Down Comedy Club

Liz Navratil has been wowing the crowds at Snug Harbour's Sit Down Comedy Club as she tries out new material and re-invents some of her old stuff. Appearing with several other comedians each night, Liz has delivered pieces that deal with her own experiences of having a disability or other peoples perceptions of people with disabilities. Her latest dialogue about "playing the pokies" speaks to the winner and loser in us all. From the reaction of the crowds her humour is well received and she is establishing a name for herself as a stand up comic. Find out when she is next on and turn up. The club, while not fully accessible, can be accessed through the courtyard with one small step.



## PROJECT MANAGERS' REPORT

Once again we have started the year off with a wild dash from the starting line. Welcome back to another year of adventure and excitement on the Access Arts roller-coaster ride!!!

### REGIONAL TOUR -

#### *"tracking the blue sheep"*

As a major component of work for this year Scotia will be coordinating a two strand tour of workshops and planning sessions with local government organisations and individuals throughout regional Queensland. The tour will also contain a travelling exhibition of member's works. This will be exhibited with local artist's work in each of the regional centres visited.

In undertaking this venture we aim to re-establish our links with regional groups and individuals whilst strengthening ties with local government and arts organisations. This will strengthen local activity and advocate for people with disabilities in the regional areas.

At the conclusion of the Queensland tour Scotia will be continuing this work at the "Shake Hands, Share Hearts" festival in Japan, thanks to a grant from the Australia Council.

Funding is still being sort to cover the costs of embarking on these tours. At this point the first eight week tour of South East Queensland is confined. We are waiting on replies from grants submitted to the Gaming Machine Community Benefit Fund and the Department of Families, Youth & Community Care to confirm the Greater Queensland Tour.

The South East Queensland section of the tour will travel through Ipswich, Toowoomba, Warwick and finish up in Stanthorpe during the time of their Interarts Community Festival. Links with festivals in several towns will mean good exposure for performances and

will ensure that a large number of people will visit the exhibition.

Everyone is invited to attend the launch of the exhibition in Ipswich on the 6th April 1997. We are planning a Brisbane exhibition venue for the tour on its return in June so if there are any members who wish to submit work for this please contact us at the office.

### ARTS QUEENSLAND

There is presently a huge reshuffle occurring within Arts Queensland, initiated through the office of Hon Joan Sheldon, Minister for the Arts. At this point in time we are unsure of the ramifications of this change, but our concerns are great, particularly for the positioning of community arts practice and regional development. It is a time when the arts community need to rally together in order to advocate for the development and support of our industry. If any members would like to write a letter to Joan Sheldon's office expressing their concerns we have a draft copy which can be accessed through the office. Please call us as soon as possible.

### MEMBERS NEWS

Bob Williams has been put in contact with Playlab, an arts organisation who can assist in writing and developing a script. Playlab have agreed to assist Bob in such areas as critical text analysis and appraisal. Playlab will also assist by setting up a play reading of Bob's play once it has gone through this refining process.

Karyn White approached Access Arts to assist her in developing a long term idea which she has wanted to do for some time. The piece is a short monologue by Franco Rame (German Socialist Theatre). The piece touches on many of the issues which Karyn has experienced since acquiring her disability. A director has been sourced; Linda Hastle has had considerable experience working with people experiencing disability and disadvantage through Yintfish Productions. Funding will

be sourced through Arts Queensland and a venue or event will also be sourced for Karyn to present this piece. Good luck Karyn!

As a practicing artist, who produces high quality work in both painting and sculpture, Brad Nunn is working with the Kingfisher Recycling Unit as the facilitating artist for a community public art project. Under the auspices of Access Arts, the Kingfisher Centre will be submitting a mural proposal to the Brisbane City Council for funding through the Local Cultural and Festivals Grant.

Scotia Monkivitch &  
Loraine Morham

### The "How To" Kits

Wyndham City Council has produced, in partnership with professionals in their respective fields, a series of three specific "How To" kits. These kits describe the fundamental steps that you need to consider in undertaking successful arts activities, and are ideal for anyone starting out.

#### EXHIBITION KIT (Cost \$15.00)

Includes: Sample Agreement, Invitation, Media Release; Guide to Successful Media Relations; Designing Exhibitions.

#### PUBLIC ARTS KIT (Cost \$15.00)

Includes: Description of a Brief & Sample Brief; Preparing Applications, Budgets & Timelines; Sample Building Plan & Contracts.

#### PERFORMING ARTS KIT (Cost \$15.00)

Includes: Staging a Performance; The Dream Team, Venue Issues & Contracts; Sample Timeline, Budgets & Promotion Material; Building up your Audience & Technical Information.

Phone or Send your Order to:

Helen Millicer, Wyndham City Council, PO Box 197, Werribee Vic 3030

Ph: (03) 9741 9400

Fax: (03) 9741 9648

## Program Manager's Report

### Workshops

It's good to see a lot of old and new faces



attending our workshops in 1997! Once again, numbers are high but there are still vacancies in all workshops except Drama. With our new format this year, members will learn new techniques as every six weeks a new artist will be taking over the class. It is good to see that music and dance have grown in numbers once again.

### Master Classes

On Saturday, 7 June 1997 our Master Classes will commence. The purpose of the Master Class program is so those who have been participating in workshops for a long time will learn specific techniques in the art form.

We will have Ross Barber taking the first three weeks of the Visual Arts Master Class. During the second three weeks we will be drawing, using a model. Our artwork will then be transformed into a three dimensional form.

In the Performing Arts Master Class we will have a class in Voice Technique. The second part of the class may be using HUBBUB, constructing musical instruments and a performance using those instruments.

The Master Classes will run from 7 June 1997 to 12 July 1997.

As there are only twenty places for each of the Master Classes there will be criteria for entry. Please ensure that you enroll as soon as possible for these classes. The criteria includes:

- The length of time you have been attending Access Arts workshops;
- The number of contributions you have created in the Visual and/or Performing Arts; and
- Your demonstrated willingness to learn.

### Outreach Program

We have received a lot of interest from neighbouring regions to organise workshops and run classes.

We are sending two artists to conduct classes in the Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast regions. Three classes will be run over three months in each region.

#### Sunshine Coast

Monday, 28 April 1997

Monday, 5 May 1997

Monday, 23 June 1997

#### Gold Coast

Saturday, 12 April 1997

Saturday, 28 June 1997

Sunday, 10 August 1997

We have employed two artists, Annie Lee and Cindy Ranger, to conduct these workshops.

Annie Lee has extensive experience as a performer and singer/songwriter. She has devised many shows as a solo performer as well as material for community events and festivals.

Cindy Ranger has a background in Visual Arts with a broad range of skills including painting, drawing, sculpture, print-making and installation. Cindy has worked as a Community Artsworker for many years with a long history working with disadvantaged youth.

Both women bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the project which will ensure a dynamic and rewarding workshop for all participants.

At the end of each program we will have a public display - an exhibition or a performance. We will keep you informed of future details.

Robert Plant  
Program Manager



## Access Arts on the Net!

Thanks to DADAA, who have provided us with a new modem and 60 hours of net time, Access Arts is now linked to the internet.

I recently had the opportunity to attend a one day Internet seminar which was very helpful for beginners, such as myself, to access the internet. All of the staff have been overwhelmed by the huge amount of information available on so many topics.

I am in the process of putting together a web page and am interested to obtain member's ideas. If you have any ideas as to what you would like to see on the Access Arts web page, please contact the office.

Our present web page address (which is incredibly boring and needs your touch) is:

<http://www.ozemail.com.au/~accarts>

Our email address is:

[accarts@ozemail.com.au](mailto:accarts@ozemail.com.au)

Natalie Barnes  
Secretary

## The Arts Office and Australia Council

Grants and program books from The Arts Office (previously Arts Queensland) and Australia Council are now available from the AAI office.

Special addition large print books are available from the Australia Council on request. The printing of them is running late which will disadvantage artists with a disability who require their information presented in a large print format. Access Arts staff are available to request these on your behalf.



## From the Regional Project Officer...



It's an exciting proposition to be commencing a job that you thoroughly believe in and being provided with an opportunity to put something back into your community. I am excited with the prospect of establishing a range of arts projects targeted at specific Indigenous groups across Queensland to ensure that culturally appropriate community development strategies are implemented as an integral part of health care programs.

My aims include:

- providing access to arts and cultural activities to people who have a psychiatric disability or are disadvantaged by illness or social conditions;
- creating sustainable arts and cultural projects that meet the needs of each Indigenous target group;
- linking cultural and health resources as an integral part of health care delivery;
- providing better cultural access to individuals incarcerated in prisons.

There is much to do. Much of my initial time shall be absorbed on working on the Cairns Sexual Health Project and establishing contacts with several correctional services in and around South East Queensland and District Health Services across Queensland.

I look forward to meeting with members and others involved in Access Arts. Feel free to give me a call or drop in and have a chat about my role within Access Arts.

I look forward to an exciting and busy year.

**John Harvey**  
Indigenous Regional Project Officer

## Advisory Group to the Management Committee

Members of AAI are invited to form an advisory group to facilitate free flowing information to the Management Committee on a range of issues that affect Access Arts. In turn, the Management Committee can keep members better informed about trends, projects and directions the company is taking. If you are interested in becoming part of this group or wish to find out more about how Access Arts runs this is a good opportunity to become part of the nuts and bolts of the organisation. Please contact the office and register your name and contact number.

## IHOS Experimental Opera Project

If you are interested in joining an Experimental Opera and Theatre Project, please contact us now. We are currently putting in a funding application to develop a partnership project with IHOS Opera company in Hobart. They are the wacky 'off the planet' opera company who flood warehouses with water and suspend the actors from elastic bands. Director Constantine Koukias uses columns of ice, eggs and salt that melt during the performance creating an atmosphere of highly charged creativity. Their work is at the cutting edge of the avant garde. As a progressive, energetic and innovative organisation IHOS Opera's trans-cultural approach has attracted interest and praise for its relevance to the Australian public. These productions break traditional boundaries and stir the deepest human emotions. Just the partnership for us!



*Happy Mothers  
Day to all the  
mum's out there!*

*Sunday, 10 May 1997*

If you would like something published in the next edition of this newsletter, please send details to the office by Friday, 23rd May 1997.

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**A**rts.  
**D**isadvantage in the  
**A**rts.  
**A**ustralia



*We hope you all  
 have enjoyed a  
 happy Easter from  
 the Staff at Access  
 Arts!*

Access Arts Inc is supported by the Federal Government through the Community Cultural Development Board of the Australia Council and the Commonwealth Department of Health & Family Services; the Queensland Government through the Minister for the Arts, The Arts Office, the Department of Families, Youth & Community Care, the Queensland Health Department through the Cairns District Health Service; and the Local Government through the Brisbane City Council's Community Arts Unit and Community Development Branch and the Ipswich City Council's Cultural Development Branch.

**Patron:**

Her Excellency, The Governor,  
 Mrs Lenore Forde

**Management Committee:**

*President*

Bob Williams

*Vice-President*

Leslie Hepburn

*Secretary*

Ric Travaskes

*Treasurer*

Michael Pini

*Ordinary Members*

Thomas Bradley, Jeremy Hearn,

Dianne Hill, Deborah McArthur,

Neal Price, Tim Ware

**Access Arts Staff**

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Neal Price

*Program Manager*

Robert Plant

*Co-Project Managers*

Scotia Monkivitch

Lowana Moxham

*Indigenous Regional Project Officer*

John Harvey

*Secretary/Newsletter Editor*

Natalie Barnes

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