

# **Corangamite Arts Inc**

## **Report for Regional Arts Victoria Annual Report 2007**

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Corangamite Arts is a local volunteer community arts organization which initiates and manages local community cultural development projects and fosters and engages local artists. Many of its recent projects have linked arts and culture to economic development, the environment and heritage. We firmly believe that active participation in the arts contributes to individual vitality and wellbeing as well as community strength and wellbeing.

### **Highlights of 2007 for RAV Annual Report**

For Corangamite Arts 2007 was a year of increased membership and participation and the celebration of JubilARTS, 25 years of arts and cultural development in the Corangamite region. For the first

time we have now secured a base for Corangamite Arts in the Camperdown arts and cultural precinct, the corner room at the Theatre Royal, corner Manifold and Bath Streets Camperdown.

Approximately 200 people participated in JubilARTS a day of celebration and arts activities for adults and children held on 4th November in conjunction with Heritage Sunday in Camperdown.

More than 130 people visited the visual art exhibition by Corangamite Arts members and read the writing of 12 members of the Corangamite Writers' Group. displayed in Corangamite Arts new permanent home 'The Corner Room' at the Theatre Royal complex in Camperdown.

Twenty five adult artists created original works in the McCabe Room and 35 children enthusiastically produced works of art in various media including a splendid tree banner in the foyer to the Community Centre.

There was not a spare seat in the Corner Room during the afternoon music performances by John McInnes and his trio, Two's a Company, Andrew and Zac O'Flynn and the Ladies in Black. Due to the heavy rain the Darlington Music Group, Jam JubilARTS which intended to perform under the elms took shelter and played in the Hampden Hotel.

A full house listened to 'Voices from the Past' recollections of past members of Corangamite Arts including the inaugural President Elspeth Buntine and founding members Dianna Allen.

Jean Murnane and John Menzies. Many past members who shared their anecdotes of projects and events over the years and projects traveled from Melbourne, Ballarat and Warrnambool for the reunion.

Founding member, Diana Allen in particular had prepared a detailed account of early music performances in Terang particularly the popularity of jazz and the wonderful lasting friendships formed through Corangamite Arts program and activities. All former members emphasized the fun they had in bringing arts opportunities to the District. The same sentiment was expressed by the present office bearers of Corangamite Arts. Inaugural president Elspeth Buntine remembered the work of founding member and music teacher the late Jean Wood after which a music scholarship is named.

The candles on the birthday cake were jointly blown by the first President Elspeth Buntine and the current president Robin B. Present for the celebrations were other past presidents Doug Mc Connel, John McInnis; Andrew Miller, Francis Zemiljak; Di Daffy and Josie Black as well as former office bearer and official photographer for Corangamite Arts Rafael Bieber..

Delivered two one day workshops as part of Corangamite Shire's Give it Go Week held in February. 'The First House- Writing from Childhood' lead to the revival of the monthly writing group and the second workshop 'One Day Choir' attracted choral lovers from

across the district.

In the same month hosted Regional Arts Victoria Funding Information Session delivered by Jo Grant

Presented paper and poster on Arts and the Cultural Landscape at the Cultural Landscapes of the Volcanic Plains Forum held at Glenormiston College 31 March 2007.

Introduced monthly Saturday afternoon arts program ranging from show and tell, henna painting, quilt reading and vintage clothing.

Organised range of arts activities including revival of writers' group, literature readings, arts in the park and paper making, ,

On June 20th hosted and planned tour of dry stone walls and volcanic sites for two Kanawinka GEOPARK UNESCO inspectors

In July through Corangamite Shire's Community Partnership Scheme hosted the very successful and profitable theatre production of *Educating Rita*.

Sponsored Noorat Show Creative Writing Competition

Participated in Corangamite Reconciliation Day providing, music, readings and stories.

With Corangamite Shire secured funding from Heritage Victoria for interpretation panels in the Reconciliation Park in Camperdown

Published *The First House-Writing from Childhood* stories.

Continued to sell the two popular publications *Tales of Corangamite* and *If These Walls Could Talk* as well as the Corangamite Volcanic Landscape Postcards

Monitored the implementation of the Corangamite Shire Arts and Cultural Strategy 2000-2010 through membership of the Steering Committee

Revised our Projects Plan for 2008