

# BEST STREET STUDIO E-NEWS

Autumn10/11

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## FROM THE STUDIO

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### Best Street Studios [Mother's Day Market...](#)

Saturday April 30 & Sunday May 1

10am-3pm

Art work by Kath and Best Street Studios creators

Come along and buy that special gift for mum or grandma, with plenty of quality art work for sale at reasonable prices.

*Garden art, clay and pottery, wire art, water bowls, bird houses and much more*

Enquires: Linda 0439 192 193 or Kath 0427 212 977

### WANTED!

Kath is looking for bowls similar to these in the photo, to use for a clay project the adult students are working on. If you have any please let us know and we can collect them, or you are welcome to drop them into the studio when convenient.



### Thumbs up to Milton Loiterton!

You may have noticed how fresh and tidy Best Street Studios garden is looking! This is a credit to student Milton Loiterton who devotes time to working in the garden and ensuring the studios always looks in good condition. What a big job that wisteria must have been Milton!

Thanks a million 😊

### After School students take time out from classes to visit the National Art Glass Gallery

Both the Tuesday and Wednesday kids' art classes visited the National Glass Gallery at Wagga in early March. I can't recall ever seeing so many children so focused and avidly sketching every last glass exhibit. Fantastic!

After drawing in their visual art diaries as we walked around the exhibition, the children took photos to use as memory prompt back at the studio. There are a number of budding photographers in the group....maybe we will have to program in some photography classes later in the year. Thanks to Abby Wood in the Wednesday group for her work as official photographer for this class.

Outside on the grass after a second go at our afternoon tea picnic, we sat and made little sculptures of our favourite glassworks from colourful plasticine.

The following week, back at the studio, we made a clay sculpture inspired by the glass artwork we had seen. Photos will follow. The children have a very good eye for detail!!

## HSC Folio Preparation Workshop – Hay War Memorial High School

On Monday March 21 Kath headed to Hay to assist eleven HSC art students make a start on their major folio work.....

Woke up at 5.00am and was on the road by 5.30, heading west, bringing Best Street Studio's ART TO YOU to the yr 11 & 12 HSC art students at Hay Memorial High School. Ms Zoe Watson met me at the front office and took me up to the art room and introduced me to the 15 students who had chosen to study art for their HSC. Their main concerns centred on how to use their visual art diary or art folio and how to fit in all that needed to be done to get to their major art work finished by the end of August this year.



We discussed the importance of planning and the myth of the airhead artist, wafting along painting away, oblivious to any of life's responsibilities compared to the reality of well organised successful artists. We went on to draw up a plan for the day and then a plan for the rest of the year, to ensure a positive outcome (i.e.: a successfully resolved artwork) by August 2011.

I was able to work individually with each student looking at where each of them were up to in the development of their artwork and discussing future directions they could take. I was extremely pleased to find that all the students were well along on their art making path, with decisions made as to which medium they would work in, which subjects or themes to pursue as well as strong ideas about which directions they would like to try over the next few months.

It is great to see art teacher Zoe Watson has been able to introduce the students to the wider art world, taking them on excursions to Canberra, Sydney as well as locally to exhibitions in Griffith and Swan Hill. They are knowledgeable of both contemporary and historic artists and art movements. Living in the "outback" is certainly not a barrier to these students; in fact many of the students have chosen to focus on the local environment for their art work.

I am certainly looking forward to seeing the students finished artwork later in the year.

Good work Griffith art students and Zoe Watson.

*'It was a very valuable workshop for my students as they are much more confident about where to start and how to begin working on their ideas. Kath's experience and knowledge of the Visual Arts explained the importance of the Visual Art Diary and students are keen to begin the development of their project.*

*The whole day was very productive and Kath's ability to outline timetables and set goals for students was excellent!*

*Thank you again, we are very lucky'.*

Zoe Watson

Visual Arts and Photography, Video and Digital Imaging Hay War Memorial High School



Don't forget to follow us on facebook at [www.facebook.com/beststreetstudios](http://www.facebook.com/beststreetstudios)

*Kathryn Powderly*

## FEATURE STORY

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### What clay does for kids?

**Clay is a strong expressive medium and is ideal for enhancing children's development and holistic learning.**

Ceramics allows students to explore clay as a material. Students of all ages enjoy squishing, squelching, pinching, rolling, poking, stretching and pounding the clay. Some students find this particularly soothing and it can be useful for releasing tension or frustration. In addition, ceramics gets students in touch with nature, feeling the earth, understanding where clay comes from and contributing to environmental awareness. Ceramics even allows students the opportunity to explore early chemistry and physics - how clay changes when it is fired, how glass beads melt in the kiln, how glazes change colour and mix to form new colours.

Student's imaginations are stimulated through the use of clay as they stretch their minds to develop new ideas for things to make and new ways in which to use the clay and tools. This naturally leads into problem solving as students are challenged to overcome the limitations of their materials e.g. how can I fix this lid so it fits my moneybox? Through these processes, working with clay promotes numeracy in students as they constantly think through mathematical and spatial problems: how high can I make this tower? How heavy should the base be? Why doesn't this balance? How can this piece fit inside another? How long does this coil need to be? How thick should I make my slab? One important aspect of ceramics, which is often overlooked, is the way it enables students to produce lasting pieces. Play dough is rolled up and packed away when playtime is over but with clay students can create pieces that are kept forever. This permanency of creation fosters ones self-esteem and when functional pieces are produced (e.g. cups, bowls) students see themselves as capable of engaging in a truly purposeful activity. See the pride on their faces as Mum drinks coffee from the mug they have made and decorated.

Although students often work on individual projects, ceramics can also be a very social activity. When appropriate, groups of students with mixed ages and backgrounds are encouraged to work together which helps promote verbal communication skills, confidence and social skills. Students will often help one another out with ideas for projects or suggestions on how something can be made, and being able to show another how to make something can be particularly rewarding.

The benefits for students of working with clay are obviously many and varied, but above all.....  
***IT IS FUN!!***

## UPCOMING CLASSES, COURSES & WORKSHOPS

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Detailed event information is available on the Best Street Studios website at <http://www.beststreetstudios.com.au>

### For our fans south of the border...

We are currently setting some dates for workshops at Indigo Valley and Jan Waddington's, south of the border. If you are interested in attending these please contact our office and we can assist with details and bookings. At this stage it looks like we will be doing a workshop in July, August and September. Stay tuned!

### Leadlighting class – Expression of Interest

A Best Street Studio creator is well known for her lead lighting skills and with great convincing has decided to run a workshop. At this stage we are putting out a call for expressions of interest to gauge demand, and then we will set a date and start taking bookings.

If you would be interested in a one day leadlighting workshop please contact us at the office to express your interest.

## 2011 Term Classes Dates – Adults & Children

Term Two: May 2 – July 1 **\*\*\*BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!**  
Term Three: July 25 – September 23  
Term Four: October 17 – December 2  
*Bookings are now open for Term Two, with positions available in all classes.*

## Kids School Holiday Workshops 2011

Autumn Program: April 11 – April 21 **\*\*\*BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!**  
Winter Program: July 4 – July 15  
Spring Program: September 26 – October 7

## Best Street Studios in Leeton

Liz Walsh has invited Kath over to Leeton to run some workshops for adults and children during the year...what a great opportunity for those who cannot make it over to Wagga – thanks Liz!  
Following are the dates, with all workshops scheduled to run from 10am-3pm daily.

Saturday May 14 - Clay Birdhouses for adults  
Saturday July 30 - Kids Workshop (TBA)  
Saturday August 27 - Clay for Adults

Bookings for these will go through to Liz Walsh, however if it is easier please feel free to contact our office and we can pass on your details.

## 2011 weekend workshops (with Kath)

We are running several workshops throughout 2011. So far we have planned the following weekend workshops.

Mothers Day Workshop Sunday May 8  
Big Fibreglass Ball Workshop Saturday May 21  
Ceramic Jewellery Workshop Saturday August 13

For details on any of the workshops visit the website at <http://www.beststreetstudios.com.au/art-for-adults/weekend-workshops.aspx>

## Art to You Program

If you can't come to us, we'll come to you!  
Best Street Studios artist Kathryn Powderly is well known for her hands-on fun workshops, for both adults and children. Kath is passionate about making art accessible to all and therefore regularly travels to conduct art workshops for community groups, schools, pre schools and other education institutes. Kath is well known for her clay and mosaic workshops but can teach many more mediums. Recently Kath has conducted workshops at Marrar Public School, Hay School of the Air, ABC Glenfield, Griffith Regional Gallery and Borambola Sport & Recreation Centre.

If you would like to discuss a workshop for your needs please contact our office today.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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New Souvenirs for 2011 – watch this space as Kath focuses on the design of a new range of T Towels, magnets, aprons and maybe even calico bags

## i heART japan online charity art auction

In the days following the devastating 11 March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, Brisbane-based Japanese ceramic artist Kenji Uranishi and his wife Sonia felt overwhelmed with sadness and a sense of helplessness being so far away and unable to help.



Turning their grief into positive action, a call went out to their network of artist friends and colleagues for help and was answered by 20 talented artists from around the country.

What resulted was i heART japan, a beautiful collection of work by a talented group of artists including ceramicists, painters, photographers and designers to be auctioned on eBay over a 2.5 day period starting Friday 8 April (3pm EST) and ending Sunday 10 April (8pm EST).  
[http://myworld.ebay.com.au/i\\_heart\\_japan](http://myworld.ebay.com.au/i_heart_japan)

The work can be previewed on Facebook in advance of the auction:  
<http://www.facebook.com/album.php?id=196940070336811&aid=45605>

Net proceeds of the auction will be donated to the Red Cross Japan and Pacific Appeal 2011.

### **Gift Certificates**

Best Street Studios has the most creative present you can give for any occasion. Why not buy a Gift Certificate for a friend or relative so they can discover their artistic potential? Certificates can be purchased for any amount, a particular course, or for the value of the course of your choice. A Best Street Studios Gift Certificate makes a fabulous present for anyone.

Contact the office today to discuss the options

### **Best Street Studios Greeting Cards**

2009 saw the launch of the long awaited Best Street Studio greeting cards. With eight gorgeous designs they are the perfect card for any occasion. We are currently sourcing distribution outlets and hope to have them in many retail stores throughout the Riverina in the coming months. In the meantime feel free to contact our office for purchases.

Visit the website to check out the designs [www.beststreetstudios.com.au](http://www.beststreetstudios.com.au)

### **Wagga Wagga novelty Tea Towels**

The famous Wagga Wagga cow tea towels and wild women of Wagga Wagga tea towels have become an icon for Best Street Studios. Purchase yours today at the Wagga Wagga Visitor Information Centre, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery or Best Street Studios. We also take bulk wholesale orders for the tea towels.

We are pleased to announce that we will launch two new tea towel designs in July 2010 – keep an eye out for these.

**Note:** If you have anything art related that you would like to sell, swap or give-away please let us know. We will be more than happy to advertise it to our large mailing list...that is if we do not buy it first!

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **Spirit of the Land Art Festival 2011 - NATIONAL FARM ART SCULPTURE AWARD of \$10,000 in prize money and additional \$6000 in other awards**

The National Farm Art Sculpture Award is for sculptures created from recycled or new farm materials and/or any natural element of the land in a new art form called "farm art."  
The Arts Festival includes three exhibitions held in Lockhart in the heart of the Riverina District of NSW some 70kms from Wagga Wagga and 90kms from Albury/ Wodonga.

The exhibition categories are:

**Sculpture** (any medium, including Farm Art)

**Fine Art** (oil, water, clay, textiles, glass, ceramics, photography, multi-media)

**Indigenous art** (cultural and contemporary)

**Secondary School** (Totem Poles, Fine Arts)

**Primary Schools** (Cardboard Totems)



**Garden Art** (any medium)  
**Silhouettes** (Two dimensional life sized metal sculpture)

There are additional awards in some categories including a prize for a local artist who resides within 60kms of Lockhart, and an indigenous artist award.

Registration is open to emerging and established artists who can exhibit in any or all categories. This includes farmers whose entries were the catalyst for the national sponsorship. There is no limitation on the number of entries. Entries close on **1st October 2011**. A brief resume and personal photograph is requested for promotional purposes.

The Festival will officially open on Friday 7th October 2011 and close on Sunday 9th October. Exhibits can be collected on Sunday 9th October after 4pm. Work not sold may be considered by the Festival Arts committee for inclusion in Lockhart's Sculpture Park for a period of up to three months. Unsold works can be posted on the website for sale. Standard commissions apply. Whilst all care is taken, artists are responsible for insurance. A Memorandum of Understanding outlines all parties' responsibilities.

**Website:** [www.Spiritofthelandlockhart.com.au](http://www.Spiritofthelandlockhart.com.au)  
**Email:** [info@spiritofthelandlockhart.com.au](mailto:info@spiritofthelandlockhart.com.au)

### **The Trudie Alfred Bequest Ceramic Scholarships**

*Trudie Alfred* (1922 – 2010) was a well-known Sydney potter and teacher with a great passion for ceramics. She struggled financially to sustain a ceramic practice in her early years as a potter and so, to assist others in a similar position, she left a generous bequest to The Australian Ceramics Association. Trudie specified that the funds be used to support the work of students preparing to embark on a career in the field of ceramics. Scholarship conditions and application information will be available by mid April on The Australian Ceramics Association (TACA) website, [www.australianceramics.com](http://www.australianceramics.com)

**Lorne Sculpture 2011**, Melbourne – Sculpture Trail Award: \$20,000 cash plus a one month residency, accommodation and exhibition package supported by the National Sculpture Factory, Cork Ireland; Performance Art commissions by Stelarc (AUS), Jill Orr (AUS) and Sandra Ann Vita Minchin (Ireland); opening 15 October. Curator: Julie Collins [www.djprojects.net/](http://www.djprojects.net/);  
Enquires: [lornesculpture2011@djprojects.net](mailto:lornesculpture2011@djprojects.net); [www.nationalsculpturefactory.com](http://www.nationalsculpturefactory.com)

### **2011 Indigenous Ceramic Art Award (ICAA)**

Under the patronage of acclaimed artist Dr Gloria Thanakupi Fletcher, this award celebrates and supports the rich and diverse use of the ceramic medium by Indigenous artists and acknowledges the special industry of ceramic art.

This event also provides cultural exchange opportunities for Indigenous artists from around Australia and regional Victoria as well as demonstrated current developments in the field.

**Applications due:** 26 August 2011  
**For more information** <http://www.sheppartonartgallery.com.au>

### **Calling all sculptors | Monash Gallery of Art**

The City of Monash Sculpture Competition has an award of \$50,000 to be awarded to the winner for the design and fabrication of the sculpture. They are seeking proposals for a landmark sculpture to be situated on the grounds of MGA .

In 2011, MGA celebrates its 21st birthday; this is a significant year for MGA and its community. To commemorate this important event, the City of Monash is staging a sculpture competition to fund the design and fabrication of an important sculpture for the MGA Sculpture Park.

**For more information and submission requirements:** Cheryl Nicholson, City of Monash (03) 9518 3636. [www.mga.org.au/](http://www.mga.org.au/)

**Entries for the national Clunes Ceramic Award** are now being invited.

This is an acquisitive award of \$5000 with a people's choice award (non-acquisitive) of \$1000 plus various other awards. Full details, [www.booktown.clunes.org](http://www.booktown.clunes.org), then click on the link to the 2011 ceramic award.

**Windmill Trust Scholarship for Regional NSW Artists** was established in memory of Penny Meagher.

A scholarship of up to \$5,000 is awarded annually. The WTS is administered by the National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA);

[www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/windmilltrustscholarshipregionalnswartists](http://www.visualarts.net.au/grantsprizes/windmilltrustscholarshipregionalnswartists)

**Closing date:** 28 May 2011

**Facebook For Business – Growing A Facebook Fan Page**

By BIANCA BOARD from Web123 on 25 March 2011

Setting up a Facebook business page is a great way to advertise and sell, but so many small businesses give up before they succeed, why? One of the necessary components for using Facebook for business is to have a dedicated fan base. Without fans interacting on your page, it can seem like you are talking to yourself. There're plenty of ways to grow your fan base, it just takes time, consistency and a bit of determination!

For more visit the Web123 website at <http://www.web123.com.au/blog/how-to-gain-more-facebook-fans.aspx>

**Check this out for all your professional development needs...a new section on the Australian Ceramics Association website!**

Ceramic Competitions Around the Globe: <http://australianceramics.com/competitions>

## USEFUL ARTS INFORMATION & READINGS

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Issue 501 of **The Journal of Australian Ceramics** is out on 1 April. Go here to purchase your copy: <http://australianceramics.com/home/index.php/Buy-online.html>

**Attention those with slip-casting skills**

Brian Tunks from Bison Australia wants to keep production of Bison ware in Australia, and is looking for studio ceramicists who have top slip-casting skills to get involved.

Quality and quantity is what he is looking for. I am sure there are skilled people out there who would be interested in finding out more.

Location is not an issue.

Please see the details from Bison below.

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Bison is looking for Australian companies / studios who can slip cast various forms on a commercial basis.

We supply high-quality product to discerning Australian and international customers and would welcome the opportunity to talk with people who share those same standards.

If you have the potential to offer reliable supply please contact Bison Australia Studio Manager on 02 6257 7255 or email [info@bisonhome.com](mailto:info@bisonhome.com)

[www.bisonhome.com](http://www.bisonhome.com)

**Let the world see your art work!**

Blue Banksia website has a new category - **Artists' Portfolio**. This is for **all** artists (teachers, beginners or professional) to showcase their work. It's a great way to get a web presence, if you don't

already have one. This will provide you with a web address for your business cards. Your web address would be [www.bluebanksia.com/art-gallery/your-name](http://www.bluebanksia.com/art-gallery/your-name). You might also have a loved one who has been putting this off for quite a while - what a lovely gift for Christmas!

**For LESS than \$6.00 week** you could have your own World Wide Web presence and **Artists' Portfolio** - everything is taken care of from uploading images and text, to hosting your listing, to search engine optimisation so that your listing can be found on the web.

**Too easy!** Once done you can get back to your art practice.

To take advantage of blue Banksia's 6,000+ visitors per month go to <http://www.bluebanksia.com/listings.html> for more information and/or to buy a listing. Just select the Priority Listing Level.

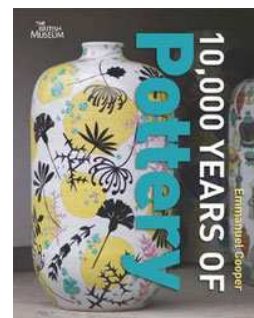
## 10,000 years of Pottery

This is the definitive British Museum reference book reissued with a beautiful new jacket design and pbk-with-flaps cover.

This is the classic, comprehensive, colour survey of ceramic art and production worldwide, from prehistory to the present day. It offers a mine of information for students and anyone interested in pottery.

Buy now at this website:

[http://www.fishpond.com.au/product\\_info.php?ref=1466&id=9780714150901&affiliate\\_banner\\_id=1](http://www.fishpond.com.au/product_info.php?ref=1466&id=9780714150901&affiliate_banner_id=1)



## Arts and culture in Australia: a statistical overview, 2010

Covering topics including employment in culture, time spent on cultural activities, attendances at cultural venues and events, expenditure on culture, and imports and exports of cultural goods and services, this new report from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) provides a comprehensive statistical overview of culture in Australia. The report also provides profiles of the cultural sectors, grouped according to the Australian Culture and Leisure Industry Classification. The information is drawn from a variety of data sources, including ABS data and non-ABS data, to provide a more complete picture of cultural industries. The report is available for download from the Australian Policy Online website at <http://www.apo.org.au/research/arts-and-culture-australia-statistical-overview-2010>

## CONTACT US

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### BEST STREET STUDIOS

26 Best Street  
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650  
[admin@beststreetstudios.com.au](mailto:admin@beststreetstudios.com.au)  
[www.beststreetstudios.com.au](http://www.beststreetstudios.com.au)

### Kathryn Powderly

Director  
P: 0427 212 977  
F: 02 6921 2977

### Linda Tillman (Tilma Management)

Marketing & Administration  
0439 192 193  
02 6927 4370



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The Best Street Studios website at <http://www.beststreetstudios.com.au> has comprehensive information on everything we do.

***"To get where you want to go, you must keep on keeping on!"***