

# Sculptors' Society Gold Coast Inc.

[www.sculptorsgoldcoast.org.au](http://www.sculptorsgoldcoast.org.au)

## Newsletter March 2009

ABN 96 321 955 729



### **Old Benowa Schoolhouse**

Studio and Gallery  
173 Ashmore Rd/ Carrara St  
Benowa 4217  
Phone - 07 5539 2712  
PO BOX 8950  
GCMC Bundall 9726

### **Mudgeeraba Art Village**

Opposite Milky Way  
Mudgeeraba 4213  
Phone - 07 5530 5348

The next Members' Meeting is on **Saturday 7th**  
**of March at 10am.** All Members welcome!



# Sculptors' Society Gold Coast

## Class Times & Committee Contact Information



# Tuition in clay, stone and wood

## Benowa Schoolhouse Studio & Gallery

173 cnr. Ashmore Rd / Carrara St. Benowa

### Clay Sculpture

Tuesday 9.00am- 12.00noon	Tony Dowers	07 55225484
Thursday 9.30am- 12.00noon	Derek Rintel	07 55974403
Thursday 6.30pm- 9.30pm	Lainie Cooper	07 55965047 or 0407777882

### Stone and Wood

Tuesday 9.00am- 12.00noon	Eric Green	07 55965152
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## Mudgeeraba Art Village

opposite Milky Way  
Mudgeeraba

### Clay Sculpture

Wednesday 10.00am - 2.00pm  
Thursday 10.00am - 2.00pm

Midge Johansen 07 55305348  
or 0423835590

### PRESIDENT

Mike Gibbons 07 55028510 [mikegibbons@hotmail.com](mailto:mikegibbons@hotmail.com)

### VICE PRESIDENT

Lainie Cooper 07 55965047 [lainiecooper@hotmail.com](mailto:lainiecooper@hotmail.com)

### TREASURER

Maya Kuperman 07 55226062 [artabstract@aapt.net.au](mailto:artabstract@aapt.net.au)

### SECRETARY

Jean Fearnside 07 55546356 [jeanu3v@bigpond.com](mailto:jeanu3v@bigpond.com)

### NEWSLETTER

Jo Ryder 07 55920234 [mumryder@hotmail.com](mailto:mumryder@hotmail.com)

Erica Gray 07 55045125 [graphics@zoran.com.au](mailto:graphics@zoran.com.au)

### MEMBERSHIP CO-ORDINATOR

Jo Ryder 07 55920234 [mumryder@hotmail.com](mailto:mumryder@hotmail.com)

### LIBRARY

Laurel Burnett 07 55229967 [r.burnett@bigpond.com](mailto:r.burnett@bigpond.com)

### PUBLICITY CO-ORDINATOR

Midge Johansen 07 55305348 [midgehelena@bigpond.com](mailto:midgehelena@bigpond.com)

### SOCIAL EVENTS TEAM

Jean Fearnside 07 55546356 [jeanu3v@bigpond.com](mailto:jeanu3v@bigpond.com)

Diane O'Neil 07 55546356 [jeanu3v@bigpond.com](mailto:jeanu3v@bigpond.com)

Jan Forrester 07 55381542 [bigfoz@bigpond.com](mailto:bigfoz@bigpond.com)

### PROPERTY/MAINTENANCE

Ole Agerby 0405 481146

### EXHIBITION COMMITTEE

#### GALLERY CONVENOR

Tony Dowers 07 55225484 [adowers@bigpond.net.au](mailto:adowers@bigpond.net.au)

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Jean Fearnside 07 55546356 [jeanu3v@bigpond.com](mailto:jeanu3v@bigpond.com)

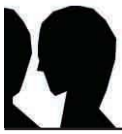
COMMITTEE

## Schoolhouse Gallery Space for Hire

Our gallery is now available to members and artists in the public to exhibit at a low cost of \$100 from a Friday night to a Sunday afternoon. All interested please contact Derek Rintel. [slimrintel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:slimrintel@optusnet.com.au) or 55974403

## SSGC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Interested in art & sculpture? Then we want you! Sign yourself up for informative newsletters and get connected with other like - minded people. Membership is only \$55.00 for the year. Send your cheque along with your name & postal details to - **The Treasurer**  
**PO Box 8950, G.C.M.C**  
**Bundall 9726**  
**QLD.**



My Name is Jean Arbon and I have been asked to recall some of "The Good Old Days" of our society. I was there at the first meeting, which was held at John Deane's house in Surfers Paradise- (1973). John was a well known local sculptor, and a member of the "Brisbane Sculpture Society". Our first workspace was the underneath of an old queenslander in Nind St. Southport - dirt floors, cockies and spider webs, but we thought it was great.

We held weekly clay model nights and conducted the monthly meeting while working our clay. Membership then was about 20, no classes, just everyone sharing their knowledge to help new comers.

A well known gallery owner, John Cooper who was a good friend of John Deane, offered us his "8 Bells" gallery for our annual exhibition - FREE. John had a great clientele - we sold lots of works. This was our first chance to become financial. We held exhibitions at John's gallery for many years, John became our patron. The gallery is gone now, when John died we set up the "John Cooper Memorial Trophy" in his honour. By this time we were having workshops with cements in plaster moulds, resins, metal and wood. Another talented member who loved the social side was Tony Palmer. The big white sculpture near the old Sundale Centre, next to the Broadwater in Southport ,is his work( resin and marble dust). Sadly he passed away a few years ago. This is where the "Tony Palmer Award" at the members' exhibition came from. The social scene was good, we had slide nights and "Hot Pot" dinners in winter with sculpture videos shown. Then the Albert Shire Council set up an arts village in Mudgeeraba, they moved old buildings to the site and gave us the old railway station from Beenleigh. They fixed it up and it was great. This is now where Midge Johansen teaches. The Gold Coast Council also gave us the old Benowa school house which is now our gallery. We were in there for many years, while also using the Mudgeeraba room's.

Years ago before all the "House Deco" shops came with their imported wares, selling sculpture was easy. There were many local school art shows, Rotary and Apex both held art shows with prize money. Most of us had works in local galleries which all sold well. This money brought us materials and paid for workshops, with occasional extras for experiments. As for myself, I did well and I was happy doing *My Thing*.

Ted North a commercial potter from Labrador, did all our firing to bisque, which is fine for sculpture. We then experimented with after fired finishes, getting the bronze look. The Mc Gregor Winter and Summer schools in Toowomba are worth going to. I went twice, once to learn cement fondu ( a special cement), and aluminium casting in foundry sand, both with tutor Frank Lambert. We stayed in a hired caravan in the camp park, we had a great time no distractions, just a whole week for sculpture. In my years with the society I have been in all the committee positions, each one held a challenge which I enjoyed. We all pulled together with everyone helping out when needed. I made many special friends in those years. I was also involved with the first exchange program to Japan, it was a great experience.

A few years ago my husband retired and we now enjoy our time together travelling, my time with the society will always be special. I enjoy reading the newsletter and hearing how it's going today. Remember -

One is only limited by ones own imagination.  
Regards to all  
Jean.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about the past you can check out the library for more. Jean, your words inspire and remind me - the pleasure of learning from like minded people, skill sharing and making connections, to me is one of the most important sides to being in an arts society.

Thank you for your words.....ErK

# EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

[www.sculptorsgoldcoast.org.au](http://www.sculptorsgoldcoast.org.au)

Help us Keep you informed about what's going on locally in the world of sculpture. Send info to- Jo Ryder - [mumryder@hotmail.com](mailto:mumryder@hotmail.com)



★  
**Moreton Bay Region Art Awards (locals only)**

Entries close 2nd March 2009.  
Exhibition from 23rd May to 4th July.  
Information: Tel: (07) 34806666 or the Gallery (07) 34806941  
Email: [pinerivers.gallery@moretonbay.qld.gov.au](mailto:pinerivers.gallery@moretonbay.qld.gov.au)

★  
**The SWELL Sculpture Festival Currumbin**

Entries close: 24th March 2009.  
Exhibition from: 11th - 20th September.  
For information: Tel: +617 55986004  
[info@swellsculpture.com.au](mailto:info@swellsculpture.com.au)  
[www.swellsculpture.com.au](http://www.swellsculpture.com.au)

★  
**Prometheus Visual Art Awards**

Entries close: 27th March  
Ph: 0755870309 or [www.prometheusartaward.com.au](http://www.prometheusartaward.com.au)

★  
**WORKSHOP - GLAZE TECHNIQUE WITH MIDGE**

**WHEN:** Saturday 28th of March  
**WHERE:** Mudgeeraba Studio, Mudgeeraba Rd.  
**TIME:** 10 am till finish?  
**COST:** \$44

★  
**Sunshine Coast Art Prize.**

Entries close: March 2009  
National Contemporary Award  
Tel: 0754208299  
[www.scap.org.au](http://www.scap.org.au)

★  
**Maleny Art Awards**

Entries from 1st - 20th of March.  
[www.malenyartawards.com](http://www.malenyartawards.com)

★  
**The Churchie Emerging Artist Exhibition Brisbane**

Entries for this statewide exhibition close 31st of March.  
Information at [www.churchieemerginart.com/](http://www.churchieemerginart.com/)  
Tel: 38962200

★  
**Art Newsflash** - a monthly e-newsletter listing local arts events. To Join Just email Ray Friskin. [rayandmarge@ozemail.com.au](mailto:rayandmarge@ozemail.com.au)

★  
**Free Glaze & Product Demo**

Tuesday 7th of April  
Register your interest with Erica on 55045125 or at [graphics@zoran.com.au](mailto:graphics@zoran.com.au)

## Life Model Session

Do you enjoy working from the human form? Come and join us and work to your own level. Classes have a relaxed, informal atmosphere. Tutor, Tony is happy to assist, if required. Bring your paper and drawing materials. Clay can be purchased on site.

This Months Class

**March 11th**  
**7.00pm-9.00pm**



Grab yourself a super saving. Prepay \$30.00 for the last 4 classes of the financial year. That's right **Pay \$30.00** and get **4 classes**, that is one class for **free**.

"Walk- ins" welcome - pay only \$10.00 per class, Offer only valid until the 11th of March, classes ending in June. **Don't miss out on this great deal!**  
To register your place please call **Tony Dowers** on **07 55225484**

**Wholesalers - Direct to the Public**  
**We Supply and Deliver Australia Wide**

- Clay, Sculpture & Pottery Supplies
  - Kilns, Wheels & Equipment
  - Tools & Glazes
  - Raw Materials
  - Firing Service

Ph: **07 5569 2360**  
Fx: 07 5569 2365

Unit 29 Mudgeeraba Industrial Park,  
30 Mudgeeraba Road,  
Worongary QLD 4213

Email : [sales@claydirect.com.au](mailto:sales@claydirect.com.au)  
Web : [www.claydirect.com.au](http://www.claydirect.com.au)

**We Are Open**

Monday-Friday	9am - 4pm
Saturday	9am - 12pm

The Tutors' Exhibition held early February at the Benowa School House Gallery was a great success. Showcasing the many talents of the Society's highly regarded tutors'. The exhibition contained many varied styles & materials, paintings and sculptural works in wood, metal, clay, resin and cements. Opening night was enjoyed by all who attended and it was great to have the support from the Gold Coast Potters' Association who opened their gallery on the night as well. This gave guests plenty to look at and be inspired by. It was a balmy night and with the light refreshments provided by the lovely ladies from the social events team we were kept happy, Well done girls! Also our thanks to the groundsman and the exhibition committee for providing a hassle free event. Last but not least we thank the tutors' for their time in preparation and sharing some of their work with us. We will all be looking forward to the next Tutor's Exhibition.

.....ErK.....

Photos compliments of Lainie Cooper & Henry Wenner



**Net Nerd - check these websites out**  
Let Net Nerd expand your memory drive. Sit back & enjoy your guided tour down the super highway.

[www.jansch.freeseve.co.uk/index.html](http://www.jansch.freeseve.co.uk/index.html)

[www.sidburnard-sculptor.co.uk](http://www.sidburnard-sculptor.co.uk)



Driftwood horse by artist Heather Jansch

## **WORKSHOP NOTICE**

**Midge will conduct a 1 day workshop on BASIC GLAZING TECHNIQUE designed for those sculptors with minimal glazing knowledge as a finish for clay sculpture.**

After this workshop, you should know something about how to use commercially-prepared glazes and underglazes (such as the Duncan's products), as well as gaining some other important knowledge about low-fired glaze, high-fired glaze (stoneware), firing temperatures and the use of Orton Cones, oxidation and reduction firing, how to prepare and mix your own high-fired (stoneware) glaze and how to use iron oxide for a great high-fired effect .

Although designed for use on slip-cast pure-white earthenware clay, Midge has an extensive knowledge of the use of commercially prepared glaze such as Duncan's and how it behaves on our most-used favourite BRT Clay. Midge will take you through all the Duncan's products and the varied effects achieved with different techniques – and will explain in simple language such things as gloss, satin, matt, dry, underglaze, overglaze, antiquing, sponging, crackle-effect, wax-resist, raised design and texture glazes and an explanation of the use of precious metal overglaze and lustres such as 22carat gold and platinum etc. etc. etc.



This workshop is "hands-on" - Midge will provide all participants with bisque-fired BRT Clay test-tiles to work on with various glaze and techniques, **which you will get to keep for your future personal reference after they have been glaze-fired.** All glaze products necessary will be provided in the workshop for use on these test-tiles. If you wish to have a sculpture/piece high-fired using the stoneware glaze (greeny/turquoise) and oxide wash I will show you how to prepare and mix in the workshop, bring it along – there will be my usual student firing-fee for this sculpture piece to be stoneware fired (not covered by workshop fee).

**WHEN:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March

**WHERE:** Mudgeeraba Studio, Mudgeeraba Rd opposite Milky Way.

**TIME:** 10am till finished?

**COST:** \$40 + 10% fee to Society = \$44 inclusive of glaze, tools, test-tiles and firing of test-tiles.

**WHAT TO BRING:** Variety of your CLEAN brushes (Midge will provide special uncontaminated brushes for lustre and gold); notepad and pen as you will be required to take some notes on what you learn and do on the test-tiles.

CONTACT: Please contact Midge immediately to register as test-tiles and materials need to be pre-prepared and **workshop space may be limited.** PHONE 0423835590 or EMAIL [midgehelena@bigpond.com](mailto:midgehelena@bigpond.com)

**Midge Johansen will be re-commencing Wednesday evening clay sculpture classes at Mudgeeraba (Mudgeeraba Rd. opposite Milky Way) for those wishing to take part in some general "Mud-Slinging" and other fun and games in all matters to do with Clay. Suitable for either total beginners, or those wishing to advance their skills. According to what students require, Midge covers all aspects of hand-building, firing and finishing techniques, plaster mold-making and slip-casting together with some Raku-Firing sessions included. Commencing Wednesday March 11th. Please contact Midge now for details, costs, or to register your interest - Phone 0423835590 or Email [midgehelena@bigpond.com](mailto:midgehelena@bigpond.com)**

## **NEWSLETTER**

Help needed with the newsletter.

Anyone who is interested in getting involved with the newsletter is invited to get in touch with the committee . I will be finishing up soon to pursue other art interests. The lovely Jo Ryder will be continuing on but she would welcome your support.

Contact Jo Ryder at : [mumryder@hotmail.com](mailto:mumryder@hotmail.com)

Thanks to all for the opportunity.....ErK

# Whittling Away The Time

Liked the idea of whittling but never tried it? Well you don't need a rocking chair and a pipe just a sharp knife and some wood. I like drift wood but you can hack just about any wood, although soft wood is easy to carve. Pick up fallen branches or prune a branch from a tree. Newly cut branches will need all the bark and green layer removed so pick thicker pieces to work with. You can use any knife as long as it is sharp and can be sharpened easy, I like my Stanley knife with replacement blades. The important thing with working wood is to have your design in mind and to work slow with controlled movements. Techniques - **cut** to rough out - **shave** to plane to a smooth finish - **channel** to cut parallel lines to remove a sliver of wood and **scrape** to drag the flat blunt edge of a knife over the surface to smooth and burnish your work. **Sandpaper** wrapped over a pen end works to smooth of any sharp edges or burs. This is intuitive stuff and will come naturally to you, it's fun and very rewarding. You can make practical things like wooden spoons but make them out of hard wood or bamboo, or like my foot you may find a piece of driftwood that tells you what it is. I picked



this piece up of the beach and it need very little done to it. I set up on the couch and carved his toes and nails, put some shape into his arch and ankle while watching TV. Sure I made a bit of a mess but it was fun fun fun. Now I am looking at the trees in the yard with new eyes.

.....ErK

## Fun Time Fish - whittle a fish

*Draw the outline of your design onto your wood make the design suit the wood size. When you shave off your design lines you can replace them as you go, use pencil, pen or chalk.*

*Now you can cut away the excess areas remembering to cut away from yourself and take it easy. The whole idea is to enjoy the process. As you get closer to your design lines, start to shave off thin layers working in the shape, add more design lines as you need them or you may end up with an eel, nice also. As you work, you will start to see where you need more depth and curves. The fins will need to be thinner than the body but make sure they still have enough thickness at least 4 mm at the edge or they may break. Taper them up gradually from the body giving them more strength. You might also like to add a slight wave to the fins for a more natural look. When you are happy with your fish you can sand it or leave it raw.*



*Now for the detail- eyes- fins- scales. You might want to etch in detail like fins and eyes with an awl with a sharp point, some people use a pyrography pen to burn in these details or another interesting way is to use a black ink pen to great effect. When you are finished you can apply paint or lacquer or just rub your work with oil or bee's wax to seal it or leave it natural to weather for beautiful results. With practice you'll be amazed at how comfortable and skilled you can become. The satisfaction of making something in your free time that's either practical or fun is very rewarding. Happy Whittling.....ErK*

