

ARTS MARGARET RIVER

2015

ANNUAL REPORT



Arts Margaret River's inaugural SuBIRDia Birdhouse exhibition fundraiser



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

ARTS MARGARET RIVER is the Arts Hub in and for the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River and the greater Cape-to-Cape region in the southwest of Western Australia.

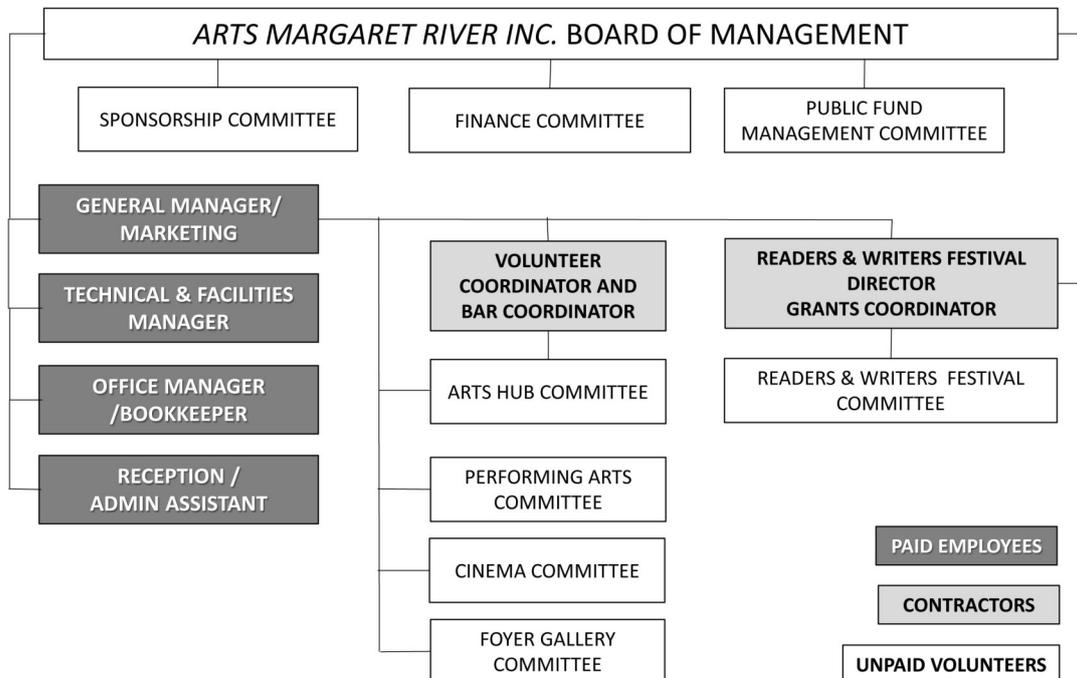
ARTS MARGARET RIVER was founded by a small group of dedicated volunteers in 1974 and forty one years later it continues to thrive from the efforts and dedication of our FIVE ENDURING PILLARS:

our MEMBERS,
our dedicated VOLUNTEERS,
our generous SPONSORS (State, Shire and other donors),
our COMMUNITY (including businesses)
and of course our AUDIENCES.

Our programs of cinema, live theatre and music, literature and visual arts continue to grow, supported by our partnership with the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River, long-term support from the Government of Western Australia, businesses in its region, and lovers of the arts who live, work and play in the region.

www.artsmargaretriver.com Arts Margaret River Inc. ABN 61 874 730 774

OUR ORGANISATION



MANAGER'S REPORT

2015 was a very busy and challenging year for Arts Margaret River. The resignation of the General Manager in January meant that a replacement was needed. The subsequent increased workload became unmanageable for the remaining staff members and a dedicated Receptionist/ Cinema/Box Office Coordinator was required. In the past rotating volunteers had proven to be unreliable and lacking in the necessary skills and Janine Bebb was employed on a part time basis in March.

In April Stephanie Kreutzer was contracted to the roles of General Manager and Marketing Manager and Helen Allan was contracted to the roles of Grants Officer in addition to the Festival Director position. Staffing was thus as follows:

General Manager/Marketing Manager, Stephanie Kreutzer—Full Time

Technical and Facilities Manager, Phil Bebb—Full Time

Office Manager/Bookkeeper, Kaye Campbell—Part Time 0.525

Reception/Admin Assistant, Janine Bebb—Part Time 0.625

Festival Director/Grants Officer, Helen Allan—Part Time 0.75

Volunteer Coordinator, Ian Smith—Part Time 0.15

Highlights for the year

- ◆ Strong relationships were established with local schools; St Thomas More Primary, Dunsborough Primary, Montessori Primary, Independent School, Augusta Primary and Cowaramup Day Care Centre. These schools attended a number of Children's Shows held during school term.
- ◆ High calibre family shows 360 AllStars and Erth's Dinosaur Zoo had sell out shows.
- ◆ Extensive community engagement with 360 Allstars workshops, The Mini Beanie Festival, Acting and art workshops, teenage live music event and engagement, Rock and Roll Dance and the very successful SuBIRDia exhibition/auction.
- ◆ The upgrade and improvement in technical facilities has meant that we are able to offer an improved quality in sound and presentation. This vastly improved our cinema offering which resulted in increased attendance. It also improved our show lighting and sound capabilities with increased safety standards.
- ◆ Obtaining the Special Facility Liquor Licence in July. P Bebb and S Kreutzer obtained Approved Bar Manager's Licences. Howard Park and Cheeky Monkey Brewery were secured as wine and beer sponsors.
- ◆ Foyer Gallery upgrade including new display panels and lighting tracks improving the Gallery presentation.

Snapshot of attendance/events

- ◆ Cinema—we screened over 100 movies which over 6,000 people attended.
- ◆ Live Shows— we presented 27 live events which was attended by over 6,200 people.
- ◆ Readers & Writers Festival—we presented the largest regional festival in WA attended by over 2700 people.
- ◆ Venue Hire—The Cultural Centre was used by over 25 different community groups including local schools, dance schools, Margaret River Chamber of Commerce, Amnesty Margaret River, Foamlust Expo, Augusta Square Dance, RAC, Seniors Expo, Gourmet Escape and many more. These events were attended by over 12,000 people and many of the events required technical set up and/or operation and varying degrees of administration assistance.

Stephanie Kreutzer
General Manager

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My fellow Arts Hub Members, Volunteers, members of the Board of Management and the loyal and small corps of hard-working employees of Arts Margaret River. Welcome to our 42nd Annual General Meeting.

Arts Margaret River had a good year in 2015. Let me give you a few facts:

Events in the Margaret River Cultural and Events Centre totalled more than 300 during the year. These included stage shows, cinema, foyer gallery exhibitions, our annual Readers and Writers Festival, fund raisers like the spectacular Bird House Auction and our Rock 'n' Dance. We received no audience complaints.

Audiences attending our Arts Margaret River events, including our Cowaramup Sundowners, totalled more than 17,000. Numerous community groups, schools, businesses and others were also users of the auditorium and foyer space in this venue.

We managed every aspect of the operation of this important community venue, the venue, the Margaret River Cultural and Events Centre and paid a range of operating expenses. I thank the Shire for their continuing confidence in us to carry out this key role in the community, and for the management fee which is an important part of our income.

Income received by Arts Margaret River during 2015 totalled more than \$655,000. This makes us an important business in this town. After covering all expenses, including depreciation, we recorded a profit of \$5,491.34 for the year. A summary of our full accounts is available for anyone who would like to see it.

I thank our auditor Steven Dean for the excellent service he provides to Arts Margaret River. I would also like to thank our very diligent Finance Committee, led by our Treasurer Pierre Every, advised by Board member and retired Chartered Accountant Bryan Timmons, and very ably supported by our sharp-eyed bookkeeper Kaye Campbell.

Some of you will be aware that Bryan Timmons has told us he will be retiring from our Board of Management at this AGM. I would like to thank Bryan for his time on our Board – his second time around. Bryan has been a strong and effective Board member, and his advice and guidance on financial matters has been especially valuable. Thank you Bryan.

Private donations to Arts Margaret River are now tax deductible. This year we will be launching a new Patrons program to attract donations and bequests. Watch this space.

During 2015:

The quality of our productions has continued to rise, including the quality of sound production, lighting, cinema projection, bar and kiosk service, customer service and the presentation of this venue. We have invested modest borrowings to purchase a state-of-the-art digital cinema projector. We have assisted the Shire during its refurb of the auditorium 'fly tower', and we look strongly support the Shire's actions to plan, fund and carry out major reconstruction of this venue.

Seventy sponsors, including individuals, supported Arts Margaret River in 2015. I must mention our wine sponsor Howard Park Wines, our beer sponsor Cheeky Monkey Brewery, our coffee sponsor Yahava, and storage sponsor Anytime Storage Units.

Our growing number of members is now 215. In this number are included both 'corporate' and ordinary members, and among the latter, couples have only one membership between them.

We have an excellent and growing corps of volunteers. There are 234 of them at last count, of whom 110 are regularly active. They provide essential services in all parts of our not-for-profit community business. Coordination of these volunteers is the daily and weekly task of Ian Smith, and I think you will agree this task is now being carried out very well.

There were 75 businesses and individuals who supported us with financial and in-kind donations of all kinds in 2015. Our supporting ties in this community have a very wide and strong reach.

In July 2015 we obtained a 'Special Facility' Liquor Licence, which enables us to provide a better and more consistent bar service to our audiences and venue hirers.

Our record of community engagement is also remarkable, including through our 'Mini Beanie Festival', 'The Set List' youth engagement, 'Great White', cinema training program, and the large schools segment in our Readers and Writers Festival.

We have implemented robust systems for financial management and control. Our financial statements for 31 December 2016 bear witness to our effectiveness in this important area.

We have a small but very competent and dedicated group of people who are paid to ensure effective venue management; customer relations and community outreach; show bookings, contracting and presentation; paying the bills and keeping the books in order; and managing the bar. During 2015 we were supported by a number of full-time ... but mainly part-time ... employees, Stephanie Kreutzer, Phil Bebb, Kaye Campbell, Helen Allan, Janine Bebb, Ian Smith and Michael Bayens.

I must also thank our Board of Management of eight volunteer members, who each put in many hours a month to provide the policies and strategic direction to keep this organisation moving forward on a sound footing. Each member of the Board is also a member or chair of at least one Board Committee. I would also like to thank the Arts Hub Committee and similar volunteer committees whose members are involved in every aspect of our program.

Before I stop talking, I have one further happy task to perform. That is to welcome our newly appointed General Manager, who has come to this meeting tonight. Can I introduce to you Andrew Frith, whom many of you probably already know from his role in the Margaret River Theatre Group. Andrew will be starting with us on the 4th of April.

Andrew will step into the very capable shoes of Stephanie Kreutzer.

Steph has served us brilliantly as our General Manager through the past year, providing strong, intelligent and imaginative leadership across the whole organisation. Her very firm but friendly and approachable style is well known. Steph has decided she would rather return to her role as Marketing Coordinator. I would like to thank Steph for all her hard work, which has been very effective in helping us to lift Arts Margaret River to a new level in our community.

Fred Affleck

President Arts Margaret River

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Arts Margaret River Commercial Sponsors and Private Donors in 2015

Adamson Riverside
Adinfern Winery
Affleck, Fred & Margaret
Anytime Storage Margaret River
Augusta Hotel Motel
Barber, Joan & David
Bennet, Judy
Birch, Mignon
Brumby's
Budget Car & Truck Rentals
Castleden, Bill & Wendy
Chandler, Lisa
Cowaramup Agencies
Cheeky Monkey Brewery
Cowaramup Landscape Supplies
Cowaramup Lions
Cowaramup Pharmacy
Curtin University
Darby Park Serviced Residences
Edgar, Denise
Every, Pierre & Linda
Forte Leeuwin Apartments
Fremantle Press
Gracetown Caravan Park
Halanson Earthmoving
Hamelin Bay Holiday Park
Harman's Wine
Hellier, Lyn
Herring, Jeanne
House, Chris
Howard Park Wines
Howlett, Jenny
Ikon Design
Juice Print
Karriview Margaret River
Kreutzer, Steph
Leeuwin Civil
Leeuwin Grass-Fed Beef
Leeuwin Lions Club
Lenton Brae Margaret River
Lions Club of Margaret River
Margaret River Bookshop
Margaret River Cowaramup Electrical Services
Margaret River Holidays
Margaret River Hotel
Margaret River Press
Margaret River Rotary Club
Margaret River Times
Margaret River.com
Night Harvest Margaret River
Oasis Hydroponics
Quality Inn Margaret River
Radiowest
Riverglen Chalets
Riverview Tourist Park
Rosily Wines
Rotary Margaret River
Rumball, Rob & Sue
Sangmeister, Jeanette
Settlers Tavern
Shanahan, Di
Shepherdson, Anne & Lloyd
Southwest Institute of Technology
St Allard Eco Resort
Stocker Preston
Subiaco Post
The Noble Grape Guesthouse
Thorn, Anne
Timmons, Bryan & Claire
Trouchet, Robin
Tube Nursery Cowaramup
Water Corporation
Writing WA
Xanadu Wines
Yahava Coffee

PERFORMING ARTS

SUNDAY SUNDOWNERS

This year was the 13th year that the Sundowners took place. Two local bands were featured each Sunday with music styles to suit various ages and genres. Local food stalls each week included the Cowaramup Lions, Cowaramup Tennis Club and the Cowaramup P&C.



This year's concerts featured:

- 1 FEBRUARY - Blue Child Collective & Moonlight Era
- 8 FEBRUARY - Bethwyn Marie, Bella Blakemore & Doxy
- 15 FEBRUARY - The Impressions & Exploding Letter Boxes
- 22 FEBRUARY - The Goodtime Conductors & Beeva Feeva

Event Coordinator: Sean Locke

Audience: Approximately 2000

Expenses: \$11,080

Lotterywest contribution: 7,500

Cowaramup retailers contribution: \$1,700

Margaret River Cultural Centre
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arts margaret river
the arts hub facebook www.artsmargaretriver.com

SUNDAY SUNDOWNERS 2015
Pioneer Park, Cowaramup

1 FEBRUARY, 5pm - BLUE CHILD COLLECTIVE Five piece band playing blues, jazz & funk from the seaside. Featuring originals and old covers.	6pm - THE MOONLIGHT ERA Early jazz and funk tunes. Eclectic mix of accomplished musicians, playing originals & a few obscure covers to get the feet tapping!
8 FEBRUARY, 5pm - BETHWYN MARIE Acoustic rock with a touch of blues, folk and country.	6pm - DOXY Local combo that has played in the region for over 10 years. A mix of swing, latin, & country - swing features Emaly Kim, Louise Marsh, Rod White, Steve Ellis & Gary Larkin.
5.30pm - BELLA BLAKEMORE enchanting local acoustic singer-songwriter with live loops & effects.	6pm - EXPLODING LETTER BOXES An all ages, no bars held, cocktail of music, theatre, comedy and breathtaking surprises!
15 FEBRUARY, 5pm - THE IMPRESSIONS Rock 'n' roll band playing 60's classics from the Beatles, Elton, The Kinks, The Jaybirds & more.	22 FEBRUARY, 5pm - THE GOODTIME CONDUCTORS Trio of well renowned Margie musicians playing classic hits, old and new. They certainly know how to conduct good times!
6pm - BEEVA FEEVA FEEVA infusing a dynamic mix of genres from funk to reggae creating an original vibe that draws together and unites audiences with their positive energy.	

Family Concerts 5-7pm every Sunday in February. Donations welcome. Bring a picnic or purchase food and drink from local community stalls. Free 'ZUMBA with RITA' at intermission, gets the kids & adults up zumbaing.

THE LISTIES

29 January, 7.30PM

Augusta Centennial Hall

Tickets: Adults \$15, Members/Youth \$12, Family (2Adults, 2Youth) \$45

Paid Audience: 91

Performance fee: \$5,610

Box Office takings: \$ 1206

Lotterywest contribution: \$4,500

As part of our contractual agreement with the Augusta Margaret River Shire, Arts Margaret River has to present events in Augusta and Cowaramup each year. As the Margaret River Cultural Centre's Flytower was undergoing refurbishment, this show could not be presented at our venue. This 2 man show with minimal technical requirements was the perfect show for the Augusta Centennial Hall and any additional lighting and sound requirements were transported from the Cultural Centre to the venue.

Tickets were sold via the Arts Margaret River website as well as at the door. The show was promoted as school holiday entertainment

Only 17 of the 91 attendees were from the Augusta and Karridale areas with the remaining attendees from Margaret River and outlying areas.



THE BARBER OF SEVILLE—WA OPERA SIMULCAST

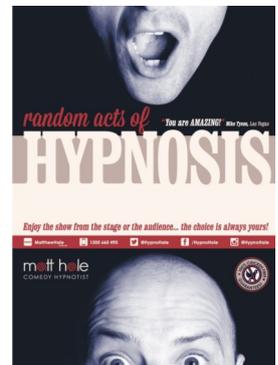
6 March, 7.45pm
Margaret River Cultural Centre
FREE event
Audience: 84
Lotterywest contribution: N/A
Show Cost: NIL



Performed under the stars in the Supreme Court Gardens, this beautiful and popular free event, City of Perth's Opera in the Park, celebrates an evening of wondrous music. For over two decades, the City of Perth has presented Opera in the Park as an annual gift to the residents and visitors of Perth, supported by Lotterywest to connect people in regional centres through a live simulcast.

MATT HALE—COMEDY HYPNOTIST

26 March, 7.30pm
Margaret River Cultural Centre
Tickets: \$30 Adults, \$27 Arts Hub Members, \$15 Youth, \$80 Family
Paid Audience: 81
Performance fee: \$3,179
Lotterywest contribution: NIL
Box Office Takings: \$ 2,165

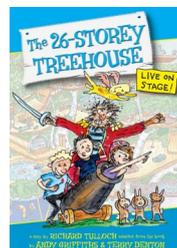


Winner of 3 national comedy awards, Matthew Hale is a professional stage hypnotist based in Australia. Having hypnotised people around the world from London to Vegas.

Due to the refurbishment of the Fly Tower, no live shows were booked in the first 3 months of the year. This show was a late booking to bring a live show to our venue, the first show with the refurbishment completed. The show was very well received and those new to hypnosis found it enjoyable and entertaining.

THE 26-STOREY TREEHOUSE

5 May 11.30am & 1.30pm
Margaret River Cultural Centre
Tickets: \$10 schools/child, \$15 Adults
Paid Audience: 640
Performance fee: \$8,463
Lotterywest contribution: \$3,500
Box Office Takings: \$ 6,660



The stage adaptation of THE 26-STOREY TREEHOUSE, Andy Griffiths' and Terry Denton's best-selling book, was part of an extensive national tour.

Both shows were during school term and the following schools attended: Dunsborough Primary School, St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, and Montessori Margaret River.

Both shows sold out and this was the first time that Dunsborough Primary attended a show at our venue. It was a good opportunity to showcase our venue and program to them and each child was given a 'goodie bag' with activity sheets, Arts Margaret River membership and program information and a voucher and balloon from a local candy store.

360 ALLSTARS

19 May 7pm—Margaret River Cultural Centre

Tickets: Adults \$40, Arts Hub \$35, Youth \$25, Family \$100

Paid Audience: 333

Performance fee: \$14,043

Lotterywest contribution: \$6,500

Box Office Takings: \$ 10,400



360 ALLSTARS reinvents the traditional circus by presenting contemporary performance styles instead of conventional circus art forms.

Featuring a basketball freestyler, BMX Flatlander, Break-dancers, Roue Cyr Artist, Vocal loop artist and award winning percussionist.

This contemporary urban circus appealed to youth and their families.

Included in the performance cost was the opportunity to hold workshops in each of the performance forms. 5 workshops were held with 4 of them booked by the MRSHS. 180 youth participated and the workshops were charged at \$10 per person which helped offset costs.

A strong sponsorship package by a local paper provided full page press ads and video promotion at the Recreation Centre and Arts Margaret River resulted in a sold out show.



MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL

28 May, 8pm—Margaret River Cultural Centre

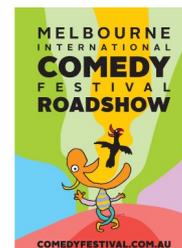
Tickets: \$55 Adults, \$48 Arts Hub Members

Paid Audience: 342

Performance fee: \$7,500

Lotterywest contribution: NIL

Box Office Takings: \$ 18,313



The annual Comedy Festival is a highlight on many locals' calendars. Many of the same patrons return each year and this is often the only show that they attend at the Cultural Centre. The show attracts a younger audience than our regular theatre patrons and it is a good opportunity for us to promote upcoming shows and events.

The event sells out each year and is a good earner in ticket sales and bar sales.

ONE DAY OF THE YEAR

Tuesday 9 June, 7.30pm—Margaret River Cultural Centre

Tickets: Adults \$45, Arts Hub Member \$40, Youth \$20

Paid Audience: 25

Performance fee: \$8,878

Lotterywest contribution: NIL

Box Office Takings: \$ 930



"It's Anzac Day this week, that's my day, that's the old Diggers' day."

'One Day of the Year' looks at our national legend through the eyes of generation, class and character. On the 100 year anniversary of the Gallipoli landing, HIT Productions brings a fresh take on this truly Australian classic.

This was a wonderful production with outstanding cast, script and set. It was very disappointing that the play had such a limited interest and ticket sales were abysmal. In addition to standard advertising and promotion the play was also promoted via the MRSHS with Teacher Notes provided. 'A buy one get one free ticket' was offered to MRSHS staff and Arts Hub Committee Members and complimentary tickets offered to all Arts Margaret River Board Members to increase audience size on the night. The show cost was very high due to HIT Productions not receiving touring funding and venues having to pay incremental touring and accommodation fees in addition to the performance fee.

I AM JACK

26 June, 11am & 7pm—Margaret River Cultural Centre

Tickets: Adults \$22, Arts Hub \$17, Youth \$15, Family \$62, School \$7

Paid Audience: 271

Performance fee: \$5,595

Lotterywest contribution: NIL

Box Office Takings: \$ 2,315



Based on Susanne Gervay's inspiring novel, I am Jack explores the journey of a smart, funny, 11 year old boy that is being bullied at school.

Students from MRPS and Montessori School attended the matinee performance. Both schools also attended in-school workshops facilitated by Monkey Baa Theatre Company's Teaching Artist at no additional cost.

After each performance a Q&A discussion was held with the audience and was very well received.

PERTH INTERNATIONAL BURLESQUE FESTIVAL

8 July, 8pm—Margaret River Cultural Centre

Paid Audience: 118

This was a venue hire and Arts Margaret River ticketed and promoted the event for a 10% ticket commission.

It was an 18+ event and Arts MR retained bar sales.



AUSTRALIA DAY

Sunday 26 July, 7.30pm - Margaret River Cultural Centre

Tickets: Adults \$45, Arts Hub \$40, Youth \$20

Paid Audience: 55

Performance fee: \$10,036

Lotterywest contribution: NIL

Box Office Takings: \$ 2,170



This was another HIT Productions theatre show that did not receive touring funding and therefore an increment fee and accommodation had to be added to the performance fee.

Written and directed by Jonathan Biggins, a Helpmann Award winning director and featuring 6 well know stage and television actors, this modern comedy celebrates what it means to be a true blue Aussie.

An excellent play which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone that attended.

CRANKY BEAR

Tuesday 28 July, 10.30am & 5.30pm

Tickets: Adults \$20, Arts Hub \$16, Youth \$15, Family \$60, Schools \$10

Paid Audience: 447

Performance fee: \$8,600

Lotterywest contribution: NIL

Box Office Takings: \$ 5,805



Based on the best-selling book, The Very Cranky Bear. The matinee show was attended by Dunsborough Primary School, Margaret River Independent School and Cowaramup Child Care. An in-school workshop was held at the Independent School prior to the performance.

The Margaret River Library promoted the shows and featured the book at their Storytime session.

BLITHE SPIRIT SIMULCAST

Saturday 1 August 7.30pm

Tickets: Adults \$10, Arts Hub & Volunteers Free

Audience: 71

Performance fee: Nil, Lotterywest contribution: Nil

Box Office Takings: \$120



This Black Swan simulcast was a venue hire and the ticket price of \$10 was set by Black Swan and retained by Arts Margaret River. Bar sales and tea/coffee was available.

ERTHS DINOSAUR PETTING ZOO

Monday 10 August 10.30am & 1.30pm

Tickets: Adults \$24, Arts Hub \$20, Children \$17, Family \$70

Audience: 642

Performance fee: \$7,726

Lotterywest contribution: Nil

Box Office Takings: \$12,100



Held during the school holidays, these shows featured Erth's life-like, large scale dinosaur Puppets. The sold out shows were loved by children and adults alike. Both shows included a 'meet the dinosaurs' and selected audience members were invited on stage as part of the show. An entertaining, educational and cutting edge production.

EVANS HAILE CONCERT PIANIST

Saturday 22 August, 7.30pm

Margaret River Cultural Centre

Tickets: Adults \$40, Arts Hub \$35, Youth \$15

Audience: 77

Performance fee: \$ 1,100

Lotterywest contribution: Nil

Box Office Takings: \$2,610



WA Ballet Patron, Voyager Estate, offered Arts Margaret River the opportunity to have Evans Haile perform a concert at the Cultural Centre following on from his fundraising performance at Government House. Evans Haile is an American internationally acclaimed pianist, conductor, artistic director, radio host and storyteller.

Cabaret table seating and theatre seating was available and ticket sales went to Arts Margaret River and Voyager wine sales on the night went to the WA Ballet.

ALL MY LOVE

Friday 28 August, 7.30pm

Tickets: Adults \$40, Arts Hub \$35, Youth \$20, Promotion \$20

Audience: 43

Performance fee: \$7,600

Lotterywest contribution: Nil

Box Office Takings: \$ 1315



This was the last of the HIT Productions shows for the year which also did not receive touring funding. An increment fee and accommodation had to be paid in addition to the performance fee. All My Love is the story of Henry Lawson and Mary Gilmore's lost love and had a limited appeal which was reflected in poor ticket sales. A 'buy one get one free' offer on the night attracted a few more patrons that would otherwise not have attended.

THE BALLAD OF POND LIFE MCGURK

Thursday 10 September 1.30pm & 6.30pm

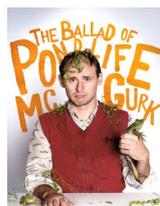
Tickets: Adults \$17, Arts Hub \$15, Children \$12, Family \$50, School \$10

Paid Audience: 108

Performance fee: \$2,750

Lotterywest contribution: \$3,000

Box Office Takings: \$1,129



This one man show was about the fragile nature of friendship suitable for ages 8-12 years. Performed in 'story telling' mode, the show had a limited audience capacity of 120 per show and was held on the stage. The matinee performance was attended by St Thomas More Catholic Primary School.

HEAD FULL OF LOVE

Thursday 28 September 8pm

Tickets: Adults \$45, Arts Hub \$40, Youth \$20

Paid Audience: 18

Performance fee: \$6,684

Lotterywest contribution: \$6,000

Box Office Takings: \$584



With the (real-life) Alice Springs' Beanie Festival as its backdrop, Head Full of Love portrays the unlikely but inspiring friendship between two culturally very different women. Integral to the tour was the 'beanie mini-exhibition' that accompanied the show to every location. Arts Margaret River in collaboration with Fair Harvest Permaculture ran a community engagement program which culminated in a mini-beanie festival. Unfortunately the great response to the community engagement program did not translate into sales. The show was very poorly attended and many complimentary tickets had to be issued to try and fill the house on the night. Many people felt that they had already contributed to a good cause and that they did not need or want to attend the show. Everyone that attended the show thoroughly enjoyed it and went away with a greater understanding of the difficulties that Indigenous people with kidney disease face in remote communities.

THE SET LIST

Sunday 4 October 6.30pm

Tickets: Adults \$27, Arts Hub \$22, Youth \$22

Paid Audience: 16

Performance fee: \$5,940

Lotterywest contribution: \$5,000

Box Office Takings: \$357



The Set List is a pilot touring project by Arts on Tour NSW that brings new contemporary music acts to young audiences across Australia. As part of the community engagement, each venue established a panel of local young people to select the bands, nominate a journalist and team to assist at the event and to help promote the event to their peers.

Arts Margaret River collaborated with the Augusta Margaret River Shire's Community Youth Manager and the local Youth & Culture group. The Shire applied for a grant from the Local Drug Awareness Group to fund food, drinks, support band payment, crowd controllers and t-shirts for volunteers. 3 local support bands performed, followed by the touring band 'I am Leopard'. The attendance on the night was terribly disappointing and we attributed it to the fact that it was held in the middle of the school holidays of which we had no control due to the touring schedule. Many were away and they did not have the daily contact with peers to motivate attendance to the event. The Youth Group had just returned from a week long camping excursion and did not have the opportunity to drive attendance in the days leading up to the event. Although there were only 16 paid tickets, there were over 40 people in attendance including the support bands, youth volunteers and staff. Those in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the night, dancing and encouraging all bands in their performance and meeting the touring band at the end of their set.

GREAT WHITE

Thursday 29 October, 7.30pm

Tickets: Adult \$40, Member \$35, Youth \$20, Workshop attendees \$25

Audience: 49

Performance fee: \$3953

Lotterywest contribution: \$5,000

Box Office Takings: \$ 1555 plus \$191 workshop fees



When young love meets a giant fin, suddenly life seems large, scary and beautiful.

Arts Margaret River wanted to present this work as we believed that it would attract a younger audience than those that regularly attend our venue. A strong community engagement program was organised as follows:

Perth's Barefaced Stories, a weekend workshop was held prior to the show with 9 participants attending. Four of the participants presented their stories at a 'curtain raiser' on the show night. The three Great White cast members conducted an 'Improvisation Workshop' on the eve of the performance which was attended by 15 participants ranging in age from 11 years to early 40's. Mobile Moments by Sarah Nelson was a special film portraiture project on a bike over 3 days celebrating the people of a place. The resulting footage was then uploaded to the Arts Margaret River Facebook page and also screened on our foyer monitor on the night of the show.

Although there was a small audience on the night, this project was successful in engaging a younger audience and giving them the opportunity to interact in a variety of activities that they would not otherwise be exposed to or able to attend.

THE KAZOOS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Monday 23 November, 11am & 2pm

Tickets: Adult/Member/Youth \$12, Schools \$7

Audience: 140

Performance fee: \$4,644

Lotterywest contribution: \$3,000

Box Office Takings: \$1,100



Join The Kazoos on a jolly romp around the North Pole to find Santa who has forgotten how many sleeps there are until Christmas! With heaps of laughs, silliness and Christmas carols favourites this show is sure to get everyone in the Christmas Spirit! Suitable up to 12 years of age.

The shows were attended by the Augusta Primary School and St Thomas More Primary as well as individual parents and children.

SYMPHONY IN THE CITY

Saturday 12 December, 7.30pm

Free Simulcast

Audience: 123

Performance fee: Nil

Lotterywest contribution: NIL



The annual WASO concert is telecast live from Perth to regional centres. A venue hire fee is paid to the venue to cover staffing and venue costs and entry is free.

Arts Margaret River held our Volunteer Christmas Party prior to the simulcast with many volunteer staying on to watch the concert. The simulcast is well attended and has improved in sound and visual production each year.

LITERARY ARTS—READERS & WRITERS FESTIVAL

Monday 25 May—Sunday 1 June

Festival Coordinator: Helen Allen

TICKET Sales: \$34,755, **GRANTS:** \$34,300,

SPONSORSHIPS: \$12,600

EXPENSES: \$72,069



The seventh annual Margaret River Readers & Writers Festival was the longest and biggest we have run – and the most financially successful. It was a success in terms of author and participant feedback, ticket sales and the raising of the profile of the festival for locals and metropolitan visitors.

The aims; to ensure the festival was run professionally, to increase knowledge of the event, and to raise more revenue through ticket sales were all met.

The unpaid presenters, mostly journalists and academics, once again said they would willingly do so again for free. Sponsors also have been keen to come back on board straight away for 2016 with Platinum Plus sponsors Karriview and TAFE, and others; Fremantle Arts Centre Press and River Angels already signing up to take part next year.

Patrons enjoyed the chance to enjoy a wide range of sessions within a stimulating and friendly environment and many people also attended from throughout the community just to have their books signed by big name authors, in particular John Marsden.

The young Readers and Writers Festival children's literature component set a new attendance record, with 1920 students from ages 3-15. In excess of 20 children also participated in the free kids activities on Saturday during the festival.

For the first time also a parallel free family day of book events was held on the Saturday, with many local children coming with their parents to take part in paper art craft (hedgehog making), colouring in and listening to stories being read by high school students and self-published authors.

Attendance for the festival was calculated at: 5117 adults and 1940 children, bringing the total attendance to 7057. Total ticket sales over the course of the week was 715 adult tickets, an increase from last year's figure of 633 and 1920 children's tickets compared to 1140 last year.

HIGHLIGHTS

Young Readers and Writers Festival– record attendance. Post-Festival feedback from schools has been positive.

\$1 book sale. People commented how much they loved the books being all around the foyer and only wished there were more.

Paper art – people admired the use of old books for a new purpose by Festival Director Helen Allan and several purchased pieces to take home. Many more people have signed up for future paper art workshops.

Value added workshop at TAFE for aspiring authors. Making the cost high and bringing in specialists ensured this was the most successful workshop ever run at this festival.

The big signs outside the Margaret River Tourist Bureau and in Busselton attracted enormous attention to the festival for locals and visitors alike and enhanced the profile of the festival.

Including our patron Barry House, the tourism association and Country Arts WA in the opening and closing added to the professionalism of the event and raised the profile with funding bodies. Bringing in high profile authors John Marsden and Isobelle Carmody with the Margaret River bookshop reporting that sales of these two authors were still steady, a fortnight after the event. As they are teen fiction authors this means that we have encouraged more teenagers to read and buy books – a terrific outcome.



VISUAL ARTS

JANUARY & FEBRUARY – PENELOPE WISE

Penelope Wise is an established local artist that does collage paintings composed of fabric, acrylic paint and found objects.

Penelope featured 31 pieces in her exhibition ranging in price from \$150 to \$4000 with half the pieces under \$500. She sold 11 pieces and had 130 people attend her exhibition opening.



As Cultural Centre closes for 2 weeks over the Christmas break and we did not have a February exhibition booked, Penelope was offered the January and February exhibition space.

MARCH – WATER MARKS

This exhibition was a collaboration of 7 local photographers and artists featuring surf paintings and photography.

The exhibition was arranged by the Foamlust Expo organisers to compliment the Expo which is held over the Easter weekend and features surf movies and displays. The Water Marks exhibition attracted a new audience, many that do not regularly attend art exhibitions.

43 pieces were included in the exhibition which was well received and attended.



APRIL – MARGARET RIVER REGIONS OPEN STUDIOS

This was the first year that Arts Margaret River collaborated with Margaret River Regions Open Studios. The Foyer Gallery exhibition featured works from 44 of Open Studio's participating artists.

It was an opportunity for the artists to have an additional venue to promote their works at no cost.

Visitors attending the Foyer Gallery could get a preview of the range of featured artists' work and then proceed to their individual open studios.

As the Cultural Centre's Foyer Gallery is open Monday to Friday, this also gave many artists additional exposure when their studios were not open to the public.

Artworks on display ranged in price from \$115 to \$3,500 and the exhibition was well attended, with many visitors from out of town.



MAY - VISUAL STORIES ARTS EXHIBITION COMPETITION

2015 marked the 4th year for the competition and it has grown in popularity each year since inception.

Artists local to Augusta Margaret River, Busselton and Nannup Shires are invited to enter and all entries must be for sale. The Readers and Writers theme 'Seasons' must be integrated into the artwork.

The prizes were: \$1000 1st prize, \$500 2nd prize and an easel and folio 3rd prize plus a case of Cullen Wine as the People's Choice Award. 51 entries were received.

The winners of the competition are pictured (Left to Right) : Laurie Poser - 1st, Peter Scott —2nd, Kylie Deltondo - 3rd, Wendy Castelden (Highly commended)



JUNE - MARGARET RIVER RIVERMOUTH EXHIBITION

The River Mouth Photography exhibition featured 7 local photographers. The exhibition showcased photos from the River Mouth area taken by locals over the course of one year and interwoven with Indigenous stories.

Also included in the exhibition was a digital projection of aerial film footage of the river mouth showing the changes that occurred each season. The digital projection was a first for the foyer gallery and was very well received.

7 pieces were sold.



JULY - NATALIE BRINEY

This was Natalie's first solo exhibition.

It coincided with the refurbishment of the foyer gallery where display panels were removed from the windows allowing more natural light into the area. Additional display panels were installed in the bar area and alongside the reception desk to increase gallery space.

Natalie's bright contemporary paintings were perfectly suited to launch the renovated gallery space and her exhibition attracted many positive comments. Natalie featured 23 pieces ranging in price from \$150 to \$750 and she sold 10 pieces.



AUGUST - CHRIS WILLIAMSON

Chris Williamson is a local artist that has been painting for many years. This was his first solo exhibition in Margaret River and his works featured mixed media, collage and an assemblage of found objects.

He featured 24 pieces in his exhibition, ranging in price from \$180 to \$650.



SEPTEMBER - JAIME BOWERS & MIRELLA PROLONGEAU

This was the first exhibition for emerging Margaret River artists Mirella and Jaime. They presented a diverse body of new works dialoguing between the traditions of drawing and painting.

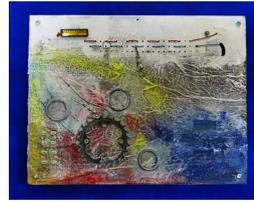
26 pieces were exhibited.



OCTOBER - ARTSTORATION

This month was initially set aside for a youth exhibition in conjunction with The Set List poster competition. As only 2 poster entries were received, we had to find an alternative exhibition at short notice.

Artstoration is a collaborative exhibition by Talliesen and her students (both children and adults) created during classes held at her home studio. The pieces use disposable, discarded and forgotten objects and materials, combined with mixed media techniques. Talliesen challenges her students to see that just because something is disposable or used, doesn't mean it can't be utilised in new and creative ways.



NOVEMBER — PETER SCOTT ART STUDENTS

This exhibition comprised of 34 local up and coming artists that attend Peter Scott's painting classes.

The painting works were diverse and featured a variety of mediums. It was a good opportunity for the artists to be able to showcase their works after a year's tuition.

The exhibition opening was well attended by a large group of family and friends of the artists and a number of sales were made over the course of the exhibition.

SHOW & TELL



DECEMBER — SUBIRDIA BIRDHOUSE EXHIBITION/AUCTION

This exhibition was the idea of the Foyer Gallery Committee to involve local community artists in an exhibition of birdhouses that would be auctioned to raise funds for Arts Margaret River.

The Cowaramup Men's Shed was approached to make jarrah birdhouses that could be used as a base for artists to decorate if they wished. Some artists made their own birdhouses from scratch which resulted in a wide variety of designs in various materials on display.

Over 40 birdhouses were made/decorated and included in the exhibition and auctioned at a special event. Approximately 200 people attended the auction event which included an auctioneer, bar sales and complimentary nibbles. The evening was a great success with birdhouse sales of over \$10,000. The birdhouses sold from a reserve price of \$80 up to \$700 each.

The exhibition remained up until mid December and was very well attended by school groups and a wide variety of locals and visitors that would not usually visit our gallery. The exhibition was strongly promoted via social media and created a large amount of community interest and discussion.



subIRDia BIRDHOUSE AUCTION

Featuring over 40 unique, handcrafted birdhouses for auction

FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER

6pm—8.30pm

**Margaret River Cultural
Centre Foyer Gallery**

The solid jarrah birdhouses were made by the Cowaramup Men's Shed and decorated by local artists.

A selection of the birdhouses will be available for silent auction, commencing Monday 30 November and concluding Friday 4 December 8pm.

The auction commences at 7pm, canapes and bar facilities available. Visit artsmargaretriver.com or call 9758 7316 for information.



CINEMATIC ARTS

The Arts Margaret River Cinema has grown steadily in popularity and attendance over the year. Screening regularly on a Friday and Sunday evening plus 2-3 matinee screenings a week over the school holidays.

Movie tickets were priced at \$12 Adults, \$10 Members and \$7 Youth to ensure attendance was affordable. New release films were shown with Friday screening featuring box office films and Sunday screenings featuring art house films. A strong advertising program comprising of cinema posters, press ads, Facebook posts and emails to accommodation providers and a cinema database ensured a wide exposure. This resulted in more locals attending rather than going to the Busselton cinema.

School holiday matinee screenings were the most popular sessions with many new release movies selling out. In some instances we had to run a second screening in the afternoon to cater for the demand. The local Kids Club School Holiday Day Care regularly attended each Thursday movie at a reduced rate, with 35-50 children.

In addition to standard screenings, the occasional 'Value Added' or 'Special Event' screening was held. These included the Anzac Day celebration featuring war films, a memorabilia display with complimentary afternoon tea plus movie and meal options offering the community an opportunity to socialise prior to seeing a film.

In addition, a number of fundraising film events were held for local community groups offering them an opportunity to raise funds for their cause. These groups were offered a reduced ticket price which they in turn marked up to sell and many also ran raffles and sausage sizzles on the night. Community groups included: Juvenile Diabetes, Margaret River Offroad Cycling, Amnesty Margaret River and the Margaret River Board Riders Association.

Over 100 films were screened over the year. Total attendance was 6261 which was 2473 more than the previous year.

Yogananda meal and film



Anzac celebration screening



Margaret River Cultural Centre
51 Wallcliffe Rd (next to the Shire)
08 9758 7316
www.artsmargaretriver.com

October cinema

PIXELS
TUES 6 OCT 11am
An 80's video champion, leads a team of old-school heroes to save the planet from aliens.

BLINKY BILL
THUR 8 OCT 11am
Blinky Bill goes on a journey to find his father that takes him into the outback.

ODDBALL
FRI 9 OCT 11am
A farmer uses his troublemaking dog to protect an endangered penguin colony.

PAN
FRI 23 OCT 7pm
Living a bleak existence at a London orphanage, 12 year-old Peter finds himself whisked away to the fantastical world of Neverland. Starring: Hugh Jackman and Rooney Mara.

THE VISIT
FRI 30 OCT 7pm
A brother & sister meet their grandparents for the first time, all is well until they notice increasingly strange behaviour from the seemingly charming couple. Starring: Ed Oxenbould.

IRRATIONAL MAN
SUN 11 OCT 6pm
Nothing can snap a cynical philosophy professor out of a mental funk, except for a young student whose presence offers a breath of fresh air. Directed by Woody Allen. Starring: Joaquin Phoenix.

AWAKE
SUN 18 OCTOBER 6pm
An unconventional biography about the Indian Swami who brought yoga and meditation to the West in the 1920's. Film & Dinner Option from 5pm - \$25 Includes vegetarian curry, dahi, rice and a glass of wine. Bookings are recommended.

A WALK IN THE WOODS
SUN 25 OCT 6pm
Travel writer Bill Bryson takes an old friend for a hike along the Appalachian Trail, which stretches more than 2,000 miles. Starring Robert Redford and Nick Nolte.

adult \$12 • art hub member \$10 • youth \$7
Book online or from the box office half an hour before screening.

SPECIAL PROJECTS AND EVENTS

MINI BEANIE FESTIVAL - 20TH SEPTEMBER

As part of the Head Full of Love live theatre show, production company Performing Lines provided a community engagement program in the form of a 'beanie mini-exhibition' that accompanied the show to every location. Loaned from the Alice Springs Beanie Festival, Performing Lines delivered the beanie exhibition to Arts Margaret River a week prior to the show.

In the month leading up to the show, Arts Margaret River encouraged local community members and groups to knit beanies for a Mini-Beanie Festival, with all proceeds from beanie sales to go to the Purple House Renal Dialysis Unit.

The Beanie Festival was held at Fair Harvest Permaculture, in a lovely outdoor 'family-friendly' setting. The festival was held on a weekend and included craft workshops, beanie displays, a beanie fashion parade, beanie sales and auction.

An overwhelming number of beanies were received from local 'knit-ins', local school children, craft groups and members of the general public. The event was very well attended by a diverse range of people of various ages, backgrounds and outlying areas and over \$1000 was raised for The Purple House.

The beanie exhibition was relocated to the Cultural Centre Foyer after the festival in preparation for the Head Full of Love show. Many came to view the exhibition including school groups and parents with their children.



Margaret River's
Mini BEANIE FESTIVAL

Join us in a whole lot of yarn-spinning and creative fun
knit, crochet, felt, sew or create beanies for a Fashion Parade,
Exhibition and Fundraising Extravaganza
OR

Organise a Beanie Knit-In over winter
Beanie patterns available from Arts Margaret River,
The Sewing Shop Margaret River or online.
Donations of wool welcomed at the Arts Margaret River office at the Cultural Centre.

Beanie Categories include:
Garden Beanies, Morning Tea Beanies, This is not a Beanie,
Beanies with ears, Baby Beanies, Animal Beanies

The Festival will be held on
Sunday 20 September 10am-4pm
Fair Harvest (off Carters & Burnside Rds, Margaret River)
Volunteer help on the day email: margot.edwards@westnet.com.au

All proceeds benefit the Purple Bus remote dialysis & Purple House in Alice Springs
www.westerndesertdialysis.com

In association with Arts Margaret River & theatre production
Head Full of Love, by Performing Lines
Thursday 24 September 2015



FUNDRAISERS

Arts Margaret River volunteers helped out at a variety of fundraising events during the year including ushering at the annual Leeuwin Estate Concert, ticket collection at the annual Gourmet Escape Weekend, running a breakfast bar at the Farmers Market and running a morning tea stall and helping at the Lions Garage Sale.



Gourmet Escape



Leeuwin Concert



Lions Sale



Farmers Market

COASTAL GARDENS FUNDRAISER—SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER

Anne Shepherdson and Julie Kinney organised this fundraiser for Arts Margaret River. 6 private coastal gardens were visited plus the Greek Chapel in Prevelly.

The day had an underlining theme of resilience after the 2011 bush fires and most of the gardens had a story to tell about their history and the involvement of the fires.

Well known garden expert, Julie Kinney led talks on the diversity of the Margaret River region and many of the gardens featured a variety of plants from natives to exotics and tropical.

48 tickets were sold and locals, people new to town and visitors from surrounding towns and Perth attended. Everyone met at the Cultural Centre and then went off in small groups to the different gardens. Morning tea, wine and nibbles were provided during the day and ticket holders provided their own lunch which was eaten at the Greek Chapel.

A very successful and enjoyable event that raised \$2525 for Arts Margaret River.



ROCK AND ROLL DANCE — SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER

Due to the success and enjoyment of our inaugural Rock -n- Roll Dance in 2014, Arts Margaret River held another dance with live music by **The Impressions**.

To ensure increased attendance numbers, the Bunbury Rock and Roll Club were advised of the dance early in the year so that they could attend.

The dance followed a similar format as previous, however extra effort was put into Rock and Roll music and dances during the band breaks and an MC presided over proceedings and judging to ensure the events ran smoothly and professionally. Patrons were encouraged to get dressed in sixties outfits and prizes were awarded for best costume and best dancers.



A team of volunteers were recruited to decorate the venue and a 'sixties' supper was provided on the night.

The event attracted 91 people including a large group from Bunbury. Everyone that attended had a wonderful time and requested that the event be an annual one. Tickets were Adults \$20, Arts Hub Members \$15.



WORKSHOPS—PATTERNING WORKSHOP, BIRDHOUSE WORKSHOP, PAPER ART WORKSHOP

A number of workshops were held during the year including:
Patterning workshop run by local artist Jan Osborne. Jan donated her time and the workshop was held at Arts Margaret River at a cost of \$15 which included all materials and morning tea. 11 people attended.
Paper workshops run by the Readers & Writers Festival Director to raise funds for the festival.
Birdhouse decorating workshop run by members of the Foyer Gallery Committee and held in Kay Gibson's studio. Participants were charged \$80 and supplied with a jarrah birdhouse to decorate. All materials and afternoon tea was provided.



FLYTOWER UPGRADE LAUNCH

To celebrate the completion of the flytower upgrade, the Augusta Margaret River Shire requested that Arts Margaret River hold an official opening event that funding bodies, media and local schools and community groups were invited to.

To showcase the facilities, a short performance by an aerial silk artist and a school band was featured, displaying the quality lighting and sound.

The AMR Shire issued 'back stage pass' invitations and all attendees entered via the loading dock and were shown the upgrades to the stage and flytower. Speeches were held on the stage and then attendees were invited to sit in the auditorium for the entertainment.

