

Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP

Official Opening Show Off 13 Art Exhibition

Memorial Hall, Carrington Street, Hamilton Hill

Friday 31 March 2017

Kaya, Wanju Wanju Beeliar Boodjar.

(Hello, Welcome to the land of the Beeliar people).

On behalf of Elected Members and staff of the City of Cockburn I welcome you to Show Off 13, an exhibition of works by 58 local artists, 9 of whom are first time exhibitors with Show Off.

I thank Marie Taylor for her truly wonderful 'Welcome to Country' that has taken us on a journey of learning and understanding of Nyungar language, culture and the Dreamtime.

I acknowledge the Wadjuk People of the Nyungar Nation who are the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet tonight.

I pay respect to their Elders both past and present and extend that respect to Indigenous Australians who are with us.

I acknowledge:

- Deputy Mayor Carol Reeve-Fowkes;
- Clr Lee-Anne Smith, OAM;
- My wife Patricia;
- Ms Kate Roberts from ArtSource, the peak membership body for visual artists in Western Australia. ArtSource's vision is of a world in which culture and the arts are valued as vital and where visual artists flourish;
- Ms Cassandra Cooper – Cultural Development Co-ordinator for the City;
- Mr Bill Wallington, President, Cockburn Community & Cultural Council;
- Our Exhibiting Artists;
- Ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys.

Show Off first began in 2003 with the exhibition occurring every two years until its popularity demanded that it be held on an annual basis.

The premise of Show Off has always been to Show Off the amazing talent of the artists who have chosen to live within the City of Cockburn.

2017 sees 58 local Cockburn artists participating in Show Off 13.

Of these we have nine artists participating for the first time, several who are returning to participate after time away and we have a group of Show Off stalwarts including some who have been with us from the start.

Participating in this year's exhibition are some of WA's best known and well respected artists along with new upcoming and emerging artists all exhibiting together and all proudly Cockburn.

So many of these artists have come to Cockburn from elsewhere many from overseas, others interstate, some from rural WA and others from neighbouring suburbs.

To quote our very own Cassandra Cooper;

"It is a very eclectic exhibition with works in a variety of media from oils to watercolour to stone, glass and rayon thread.

The City is proud of its Artist community and takes this opportunity to Show Off just a snapshot of the talented people who have chosen to live in our community."

From a personal perspective, Pat & I have the complete series of catalogues from Show Off 1 through until now and we are very proud to ensure the complete collection remains as a record of the richness and diversity of our very own Cockburn artists.

In closing, I take this opportunity to thank Miles Carpenter for his assistance in curating the exhibition with Cassandra and Artzplace for looking after the exhibition during the week and making it available to visitors from 10.00am to 3.00pm daily from Saturday 1 to Sunday 9 April 2017.

Please give them a round of applause.

The Exhibition will also be displayed on the City's website from Monday where the exhibition catalogue will be uploaded giving information about each of the artists as well as their work.

Social media will be also be targeted in order to attract a wider audience to the exhibition.

Ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys I am very proud to officially declare Show Off 13 open and to invite you to view the exhibition.

Thank you.