



For immediate release
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WALLARAH 2 SUPPORTS THE ARTS THROUGH THE GENERATIONS

Wallarrah 2 has enabled the mentoring of local school students and emerging artists through the provision of a grant to local sculptor Col Henry, the force behind the region's *Sculpture on the Greens*.

Sculpture on the Greens has been a successful exhibition run each year for the past four years and provides an opportunity for emerging artists to exhibit their work on a national scale through the public exhibition, which was most recently held at Koindah Waters Wyong in April and May this year.

Through the Wallarah 2 Community Foundation, Col was able to continue his Mentorship Program which saw him mentor two local emerging artists - assisting them to create an art piece which was unveiled at the recent *Sculpture on the Greens* exhibition.

As part of this mentorship program, Col and his wife Krys Henry have also been running workshops within local schools to promote skills in the arts, particularly 3D drawing.

Col Henry, who heads the not-for-profit *Sculpture on the Greens* explained that *Sculpture on the Greens* not only aims to bring a major world class exhibition to the community, but is also an opportunity to teach the younger generations about the importance of art.

"Apart from the annual exhibition we also implement our mentorship program which we launched in 2014. This enables us to teach emerging artists and younger members of our community about the skills required to develop as a successful artist," said Mr Henry.

The 2016 Wallarah 2 Community Foundation provided a grant of \$3,000 to the mentorship program which enabled Col to sponsor two local artists, Catherine Stanley and Melissa Baldwin, who both exhibited their pieces at this year's *Sculpture on the Greens* exhibition.

"Catherine worked on a piece titled, 'Embracing Space' which used fibreglass resin and felt fibre to represent the connection and importance of space and feminine forms," continued Mr Henry.

"In stark contrast, I also mentored Melissa whose piece coined 'Lucky' used resin fibreglass to represent a greyhound that symbolised society's response to animal cruelty, particularly in the racing industry," he added.

The Wallarah 2 grant funding has also enabled the continuation of the school mentorship program run by *Sculpture on the Greens*.

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“In the last 12 months we have also attended more than 10 local primary and high schools to offer 3D drawing workshops which provide us with a platform to mentor and fine tune student’s artistic appreciation and ensure our next generation of budding artists have the skills and interest to develop themselves within the industry,” explained Mr Henry.

Peter Smith, Environment and Community Manager of Wallarah 2 said, “*Sculpture on the Greens* has put arts and culture on the events calendar in Wyong and we are delighted to continue our association by supporting the arts in our community.

“We’re thrilled to have the opportunity to play a role in helping to support local artists develop their skills and we are delighted to hear of the success of the school workshops. Working with Col, and having an opportunity to showcase work at *Sculpture on the Greens*, will be a valuable stepping stone for our younger generations.

“*Sculpture on the Greens* and its mentorship programs are an important cultural asset to the Coast. By supporting the initiative, we hope that Col can continue to share his knowledge and passion for art, culture and sculpture and foster the arts on the Coast,” concluded Mr Smith.

For more information about the recent exhibition or to support other emerging artists please visit www.sculptureonthegreens.net.au.

A total of seven grants were awarded to community initiatives that benefit the Wyong region as part of the Wallarah 2 Community Foundation 2016 grant process. For further information, please visit www.wallarrah.com.au.

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For more information, interviews and photo opportunities:

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