

Shearwater Festival 2014

22nd and 23rd November 2014, Phillip Island, Victoria



Photo-story Dr Laura Brearley
Paintings Lisa Kennedy
Photos Terry Melvin
(and other attributed photographers)

The Shearwater Festival uses the Arts to bring the community together in a creative, cultural and environmental celebration of the short tailed shearwaters.



Photo Annie Edney

The Festival involves school children and families as well as Indigenous and non-Indigenous creative artists, musicians and Elders.



One million short-tailed shearwaters have their rookeries on Phillip Island.

The short-tailed shearwaters fly 15,000 kilometres in their annual migration from Bass Strait in the Southern Ocean to the Bering Sea near Alaska.

The shearwaters remind us how interconnected we are to our environment and to each other.





Kutcha Edwards

The Shearwater Festival was preceded by a Shearwater Education Program in local schools with artists, environmental experts, Indigenous Elders, musicians and story-tellers.



Lisa Kennedy



Dr Laura Brearley



Graeme Burgan



Aunty Fay Stewart-Muir



Shearwater Message Exchange



A Message Exchange between Elders, artists and children in Australia and Canada also preceded the Shearwater Festival.

This is a picture of a short-tailed shearwater egg, taken on Phillip Island where one million shearwaters have their rookeries. The shearwaters fly 15,000 kilometres in their annual migration from Bass Strait in the Southern Ocean to the Bering Sea in the Northern Pacific.

If the oceans aren't healthy, the numbers of shearwaters drop and fewer eggs are laid. The shearwaters remind us how interconnected we all are to our environment.

We invite you to write a message or draw a picture inside the egg about a place in the natural environment that is special to you. You could start with ...
My special place is ...
I love it because ...





Photo Annie Edney



Photo Annie Edney

For six weeks leading up to Shearwater Festival, artist-in-residence Annie Edney worked at the Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre (PICAL) to construct a large shearwater bird, a nest and an egg.



Annie Edney was assisted by artist and community development worker Camille Monet.

The day before The Festival as part of
the Percussion Rehearsal ...



... we visited the Moon Bird at PICAL



Josie Kent, Mayor Kimberley Brown. Nerida Melville-Smith

Shearwater Festival 2014

Cowes Cultural Centre, Phillip Island, Victoria

Saturday 22 November, 2014 10.00 am – 12.00 pm Ritual, Procession and Welcome

Time	Activity	Facilitators/Artists	Venue
9.30 – 10.00 am	Induction and Training of Volunteer Team	Graeme Burgan Anne Davie	Meeting Room One Cowes Cultural Centre 91 Thompson Ave
10.00am-10.30am	Bass Coast Boogie Band Rehearsal Rehearsal of Shearwater Chants and Boogie with the Bass Coast Boogie Band, Local School Children and Community Members	Mark Grunden Bass Coast Boogie Band	Hall Cowes Cultural Centre 91 Thompson Ave
10.30am-11.00am	Assembly for Street Parade Large Shearwater Puppet created by Artist-in-Residence Annie Edney meets parade participants in the Town Square of the Cultural Centre.	Procession Team Mark Grunden Mike Jordan ToK Norris Uncle Herb School Children Community Members	Cowes Cultural Centre Town Square 91 Thompson Ave
11.00am-11.30am	The Grand Procession Biyadin the Great Shearwater Bird leads the Grand Procession down Thompson Avenue to the Foreshore accompanied by The Bass Coast Boogie Band and followed by children carrying marine puppets.	As above	Thompson Ave, Cowes
11.30am-11.45pm	Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country Welcome ceremony with Traditional Owners	Aunty Carolyn Briggs Traditional Owners	Cowes Foreshore
11.45 am– 12.00pm	Creation Dance Boon Wurrung dancers Steve Parker and Sonia Weston lead Baany Bupa Dancers in Creation Dances and a Shearwater Dance choreographed by Lowell Hunter.	As above	Cowes Foreshore
12.00 – 12.15pm	Festival Opening Speeches	VACL Bass Coast Shire Phillip Island Nature Park Ramahyuck	Cowes Foreshore
12.15pm – 1.30pm	Lunch Break		



Anne Davie brought together a capable and generous Volunteer Team.



Induction of Volunteer Team



The Street Parade





Moon Bird carried by Nick Beck



Assembling in the Cowes Town Square





Graeme Burgan
Phillip Island Nature Park

Annie Edney
Artist-in-Residence







Anthony (ToK) Norris



Ron Murray and Mike Jordan



Yolngu Boys, Dion, Jerol and Mabo







Mark Grunden – Leader of the Boogie Band







Mike Jordan and Aunty Bunta Patten







Photo Gea Lovell













Festival Opening and Smoking Ceremony



Dr Laura Brearley introducing Aunty Carolyn Briggs, Senior Boon Wurrung Elder



Photo Graeme Burgan



Natasha Lambie, Newhaven College





Steve Parker and the Moon Bird



Baarny Bubup Water Babies











Lowell Hunter, choreographer of Baarny Bubup

Paul Paton
CEO Victorian Aboriginal Corporation of Languages



Mayor Kimberley Brown
Bass Coast Shire Council

Stephen Davie
Board Member Phillip Island Nature Park



Bruce Procter
San Remo Bendigo Bank





Uncle Herb Patten



Dr Laura Brearley and Graeme Burgan

Time	Workshop One Music and Culture	Workshop Two Art, Music and Language	Workshop Three Dance and Ritual (1)
1.30pm-2.30pm	<p>Gumleaf Playing</p> <p>Learn how to play the gumleaf with Aboriginal legend and story-tellers</p> <p>Venue: Cowes Cultural Centre Meeting Room One</p> <p>Facilitators: Uncle Herb Patten</p>	<p>The Nest: Interweaving Language, Culture and Country</p> <p>Participants work together to create a large bird's nest interwoven with Aboriginal language and stories of place.</p> <p>Venue: Cowes Cultural Centre Meeting Room Two</p> <p>Facilitators Aunty Fay Stewart-Muir Lisa Kennedy Brian Stevens Patrice Muthaymiles Mahoney</p>	<p>Soul Dance</p> <p>Participatory dance experience exploring movement as a shared language across cultures. Collective creation of a dance to celebrate the shearwaters and the cycle of life.</p> <p>Venue: Cowes Cultural Centre Hall</p> <p>Facilitators: Tony Norquay Mark Grunden</p>
Time	Workshop Four Songs of Place	Workshop Five Stories and Sounds of Place	Workshop Six Dance and Ritual (2)
2.45pm – 3.45pm	<p>Singing Workshop Songs of Place</p> <p>Venue: Cowes Cultural Centre Meeting Room One</p> <p>Facilitators: Marcia Howard Rose Bygrave Rob Bundle ToK Norris</p>	<p>Connection to Country: Indigenous Perspectives The Cross-cultural Exchange</p> <p>Venue: Cowes Cultural Centre Meeting Room Two</p> <p>Facilitators Steve Sedergreen Mike Jordan Ron Murray</p>	<p>Soul Dance (Part Two)</p> <p>On-going creation of a Soul Dance inspired by the shearwaters incorporating Aboriginal Language and The Nest</p> <p>Venue: Cowes Cultural Centre Hall</p> <p>Facilitators Tony Norquay Mark Grunden</p>
3.45pm – 4.15pm	Afternoon Tea		

Saturday	22 November, 2014	4.30 pm – 5.30 pm	Performance
Time	Activity	Facilitators/Artists	Venue
4.30pm – 5.30pm	<p>Rehearsal and Ritual</p> <p>Ritual underpinned by Deep Listening principles incorporating the music, stories, language and dance developed in the workshops</p>	<p>Facilitators: Tony Norquay Mark Grunden</p> <p>With ... Dancers, Linguists Musicians and Story-tellers</p>	Cowes Cultural Centre Hall

The Workshops





Learning to Play the Gum leaf with Uncle Herb Patten





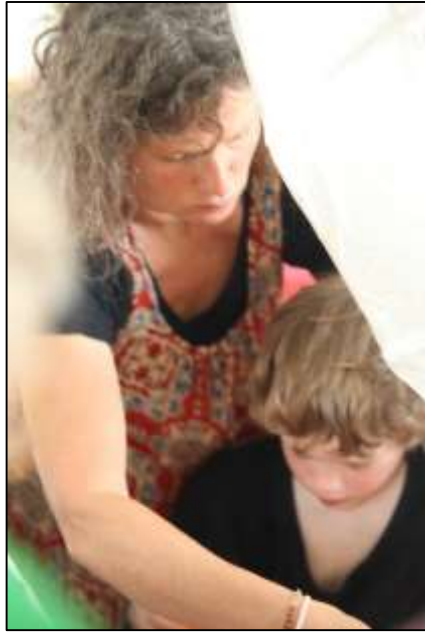


Weaving the Shearwater Nest with stories and language



Leanne Edwards







Shearwater Nest and Egg



Mick Harding burning designs onto wood





Decorating birds for the Shearwater Threshold
Facilitated by artist Kate Gorrige-Smith





Ron Murray, Steve Sedergreen and Mike Jordan on Deep Listening in improvisation



Tony Norquay
Soul Dance Facilitator









Ritual Performance









Saturday 22 November, 2014 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm

Twilight Talk and Walk

Time	Activity	Facilitators/Artists	Venue
7.00pm – 7.30pm	Talk about recent shearwater research	Graeme Burgan	Surf Life Saving Club, Cape Woolamai
7.30pm – 9.30pm	Twilight walk to the Cape Woolamai shearwater rookeries to see the shearwaters return from the sea	Graeme Burgan and Volunteers	Meeting at ... Surf Life Saving Club car park Cape Woolamai

Sunday 23 November, 2014 4.30 am – 7.00 am

Pre-Dawn Walk

Time	Activity	Facilitators/Artists	Venue
4.30am – 7.00am	Pre-dawn walk to the Cape Woolamai shearwater rookeries to see the shearwaters taking off from the cliffs	Graeme Burgan and Volunteers	Meeting at ... Surf Life Saving Club, Cape Woolamai

Sunday 23 November, 2014 8.00 am – 10.00 am

Breakfast at the Wooli General

Time	Activity	Facilitators/Artists	Venue
8.00am – 10.00am	Breakfast at The Wooli General	Rob and Stephanie Stead	16 Cottosloe Ave Cape Woolamai

Dusk and Dawn Walks at Cape Woolamai





Photos Graeme Burgan



Sunday 23 November, 2014 11.00am – 5.00pm

Welcome Home Concert

Time	Activity	Venue
9.00am-10.30am	Stage set-ups and sound checks for first three sets	Cowes Cultural Centre
11.00am – 11.30am	Welcome to Country Traditional Elders and Owners on stage Uncle Herb and ToK Norris – Sounds of birds with gum leaf and trumpet Rob Bundle – Building Bridges to the Sky	Cowes Cultural Centre
11.30am – 12.15pm	Sacred Places Marcia Howard Rose Bygrave ToK Norris – Beautiful Things Rob Bundle – My Sacred Place	Cowes Cultural Centre
12.30pm – 1.15pm	The Art and Beauty of Deep Listening 'The Shearwater Suite' Steve Sedergreen Mike Jordan Ron Murray	Cowes Cultural Centre
1.15pm – 2.00pm	LUNCH Stage set-ups and sound checks for second three sets	
2.00pm – 2.45pm	Coming Home to You Kutcha Edwards	Cowes Cultural Centre
3.00pm -3.45pm	Deep Blue Sea Yirmal and the Yolngu Boys	Cowes Cultural Centre
4.00pm – 4.45pm	BringingThem Home Archie Roach	Cowes Cultural Centre
4.45pm -5.00pm	Blessing of the Birds - Concert Finale Shearwater Sounds, Artists and Indigenous Elders Acknowledgments and Thanks	Cowes Cultural Centre

Welcome Home Concert





Aunty Caroline Briggs opens the Welcome Home Concert

Sacred Places

Marcia Howard
Rose Bygrave
with
Anthony (ToK) Norris











The Art and Beauty of Deep Listening

Ron Murray
Mike Jordan
Steve Sedergreen









Coming Home to You



Kutcha Edwards

Photo Graeme Burgan



Kutchá with niece Danielle and accompanist Dan Smith





Yirmal Marika
Uncle Herb Patten
Anthony (ToK) Norris





Deep Blue Sea

Yirmal Marika



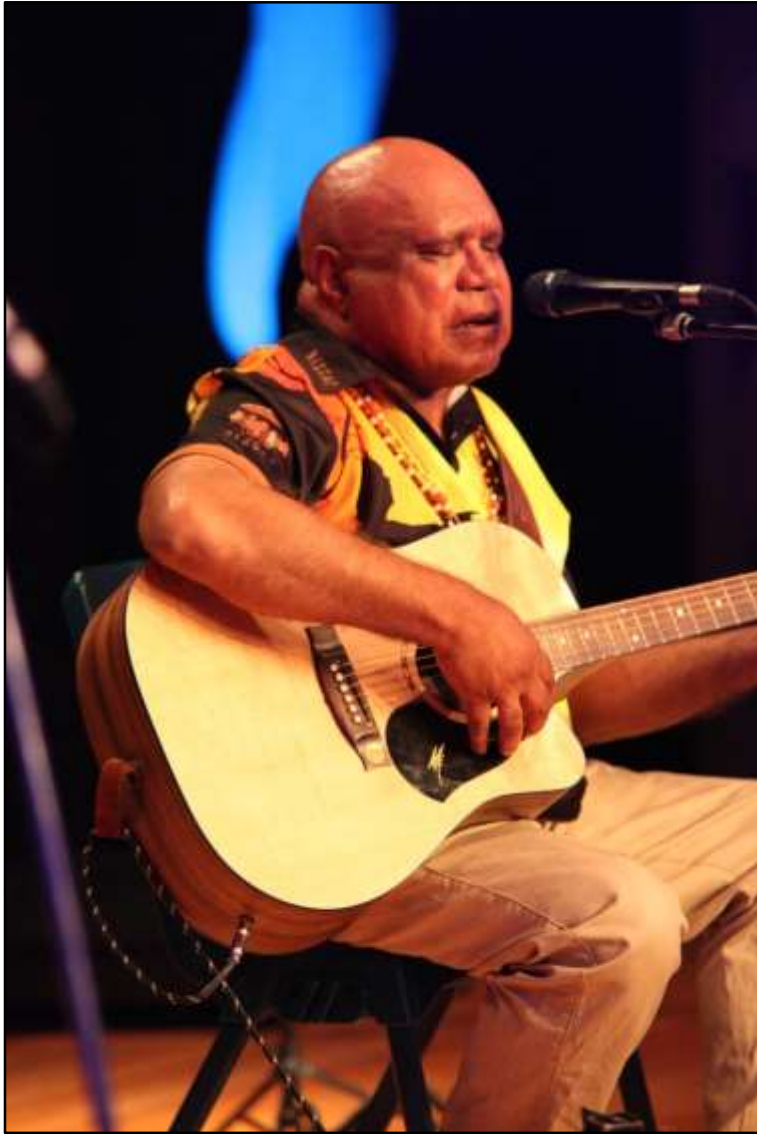
Image Graeme Burgan



Yirmal and the Yolngu Boys, Dion, Jerol and Mabo







Bringing Them Home

Archie Roach





Archie Roach with Craig Pilkington

Blessing of the Birds ~ Concert Finale





The Shearwater Festival is auspiced by the Victorian Aboriginal Corporation of Languages and sponsored by the Bass Coast Shire in partnership with Phillip Island Nature Park and ABC Gippsland.

The Bendigo Bank and Ramahyuck District Aboriginal Corporation also contributed support to Shearwater Festival 2014.

Shearwater Festival 2015 will be held on the 28th and 29th November 2015.

If you would like to become a member of the Shearwater Festival Working Group, the Volunteer Team or become a partner or sponsor, contact
Dr Laura Brearley 0434 596800 laura.brearley@tlc21.com.au

For further information about the Shearwater Festival
www.facebook.com/shearwaterfestival
www.shearwaterfestival.com.au

