



MEDIA RELEASE
For immediate release

Penneshaw Easter Art Exhibition 2006
Penneshaw Town Hall, Kangaroo Island
Friday 14 April to Sunday 23 April, 2006

Now in its twentieth year, the Penneshaw Easter Art Exhibition is always a must see for visitors to Kangaroo Island at Easter. With an increase in prize money, an extended opening to include some of the school holidays and the added attraction of "Postcards" identity Ron Kandelaars as the MC on Opening Night, the exhibition promises to be bigger and better. It will run from Good Friday 14 April (Opening Night) until Sunday 23 April 2006.

This popular annual event, the major art exhibition on Kangaroo Island, regularly attracts between 200 and 300 entries from the growing community of island artists as well as artists from the mainland and interstate. Featuring only un-exhibited works, sales on the opening night in particular are vigorous and sometimes hotly contested!

Event co-ordinator, Dorothy Stubbs-Mills, said that generous sponsorship from the local community and Kangaroo Island and mainland businesses has made possible more than \$6,000 in prize money. The 2006 exhibition promises to attract a record number of entries. "We are also particularly grateful to SA Water and the SA Tourism Commission for giving us added support towards promotion and marketing of the event", she said.

Artists Collective Kangaroo Island has organised the exhibition for the past five years. Cindy Henrich, Secretary, considers the exhibition as different as it is open to all mediums. "Visitors find it interesting to see the many ways in which the artists interpret the themes."

Themed categories are a feature of the Penneshaw Easter Art Exhibition. "Water For Life" is this year's major theme and was suggested by Bob Huxtable, Chair of the Collective. It is based on "Water for Life", the United Nations International Decade for Action, 2005 – 2015. First prize is \$1500 and the second prize is a rainwater tank!

"Kangaroo Island Moments" is the other theme and has a First Prize of \$1000. This category is sure to attract many entries celebrating the beauty and diversity of Kangaroo Island's natural environment as well as the unique qualities of life on an island. This theme is close to the heart of island artist, Peter Walker, who is the creative mind behind the unique hall decorations, a crowd pleaser every year. His memorable creations in the past have included a giant grass tree in the centre of the hall and a huge woven canopy of black and white plastic hanging from the ceiling, which Peter recalls was "an absolute nightmare" to install! One wonders what he will come up with this year!

Opening Night on Good Friday is open to all, with a small entry charge. Drinks and supper will be available. Artist Cheryl-Anne Brown from Goolwa is the judge and the winners in all the categories will be announced during the evening. Ron Kandelaars, from "Postcards" will be the MC for the Opening Night.

The exhibition will be open daily 9.00 am – 5.00pm Easter Saturday until 1.00 pm Sunday 23 April. Entry is free.

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