



COMBOYNE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Comboyne Community Arts Strategy 2002 – 2008

The Comboyne Plateau is a beautiful place of rolling green hills, streams, waterfalls and magnificent open skies. It lies between the valleys of the Manning River to the south and the Hastings River to the north. It is about 60km south-west of Port Macquarie, 35km west of Kew and 60km north-west of Taree. The population is approximately 700.

Comboyne is geographically isolated; it is a volcanic plateau, ranging from 700 - 800 metres above sea level. It has deep red basalt soils and a high rainfall. The area was originally covered by spectacular rainforests, but extensive clearing has left only a few pockets of remnant vegetation. The plateau escarpments are surrounded by State Forests and Reserves. Since white settlement, about 100 years ago, the region has been a prime dairy farming area. Over recent years a number of horticultural enterprises have been established. Since 2001, the Comboyne culture has been enriched by a number of community arts projects.

The Comboyne Community Association (CCA) is the auspicing body for the Comboyne Community Arts Strategy. It was formed in 2001 with its objective being to advance economic, social and cultural aspects of the Comboyne community. The CCA aims to:

1. identify opportunities, which improve community lifestyle (social and cultural), employment opportunities, services, infrastructure and facilities on the Comboyne Plateau
2. encourage open discussion and debate of local issues and the unmet needs of the community
3. develop community interest and involvement in diverse projects, and their implementation. It will emphasise inclusion of disadvantaged sectors including children, youth and the elders of the community.

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Project	Time	Artists & Participants	Resources - Funding	Resources - Physical	Outcome
Comboyne Mural	2002 - 03	Artist (Tertius), community group	Catalyst – Hastings Council	Marine Ply, paint, photos, UV resistant varnish, equipment for installation	Mural completed & launched March 2003
Comboyne Mosaic	2003 - 04	Artists (Guy Crossley, Skye & Tertius), community & school children	Catalyst – Hastings Council	Workshops, Tiles, cutters, ply, adhesive	Mosaic completed 2004
Sundial (Pathways Project)	2004 - 05	Artists (Skye, Tertius, Jo Davidson, Tash Topji), community, Landcare group	Country Arts Support Program (CASP)	Tables, model materials, brochure	Model & brochure completed August 2005
Comboyne Village Festival Decorations	2005 - 06	Resident Artist (Tertius), community groups, school children	Festivals Australia Artist Residency (FARR)	Fabric, sewing machines, materials for designs, installation equipment	Opening & exhibition @ Spring Festival Begins April 2006 - ends Sept 2006
Artist Residency Photo Journal	2006	Artists (Sharon White, Zan Looney, Ian McKenzie & Tash Topji)	Country Arts Support Program (CASP) PM Hastings Council Cultural Funding	Digital cameras, software, photographic paper	Exhibition & brochure @ Spring Festival Begins April 2006 ends Sept 2006

Comboyne Mountain Studios	2006 - 07	Local builders, trades people & community volunteers	PMH Council	Building materials	Studio for workshops, studio & gallery. Begins 2006 completed 2007
Individual art works	2007	Various artists	Varied Australia Council project grants	Various media for out of doors display	Artworks for public exhibition
Arts Workshops	2007	Various artists and crafts people	Varied Commonwealth Regional Arts Fund ?	Varied	Up to six workshops throughout the year
Arts & Crafts Festival	2008	Various artists and crafts people. Community groups & individuals & school children	Varied Festivals Australia	Varied	Festival (possibly associated with the Spring Festival)