



ADVOCACY  
CAPACITY BUILDING  
COMMUNICATION  
SUPPORT

REGIONAL **ARTS** NSW  
ANNUAL REPORT **2009**



FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
ACTIVITIES THAT BUILD POSITIVE FUTURES FOR  
REGIONAL COMMUNITIES ACROSS NEW SOUTH WALES  
**PATRON THE HON JUSTICE IAN GZELL**





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**Top:** Silvertown Artist  
John Dynon

*Photo: James Giddey*

**Bottom:** Sarah Ferguson and  
Meg Horan

Gilgandgra Artstreet Circus  
& Facepainting Workshop

*Photo: Melissa Ryan*

FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
ACTIVITIES THAT BUILD POSITIVE FUTURES FOR  
REGIONAL COMMUNITIES ACROSS NEW SOUTH WALES

**PATRON THE HON JUSTICE IAN GZELL**



6 Story Poles  
Wilcannia Artist Exhibition,  
Hazlehurst Regional Gallery

*Photo: James Giddey*

## PROFILE

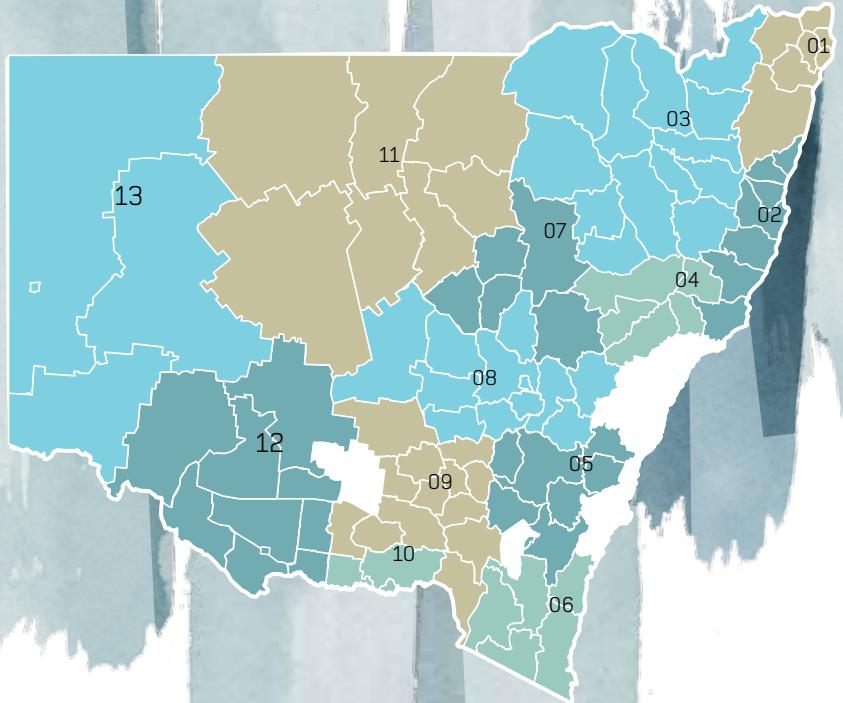
Regional Arts NSW is the peak body for regional arts activity in NSW. Based in Sydney, it provides a range of services and represents the state-wide network of independent Regional Arts Boards. Its primary objectives are:-

1. To foster and enhance the **capacity** of arts and cultural organisations in the regions
2. To play a leading arts **advocacy** role
3. To deliver dynamic **communications** and marketing programs
4. To deliver excellent arts management **support** and services
5. To ensure effective corporate governance

## THE REGIONAL ARTS NSW NETWORK

The Regional Arts Network in NSW enables people who live in the regions to manage their own arts and cultural priorities. It provides a local voice to tell local stories.

- 01 Arts Northern Rivers
- 02 Arts Mid North Coast
- 03 Arts North West
- 04 Arts Upper Hunter
- 05 Southern Tablelands Arts
- 06 South East Arts Region
- 07 Orana Arts
- 08 Arts OutWest
- 09 Eastern Riverina Arts Program
- 10 Murray Arts
- 11 Out Back Arts
- 12 South West Arts
- 13 West Darling Arts



## OUR BOARD 2009

### 1 January – 2 July

The Board of Directors was made up of a representative from each of the regions plus up to five co-opted Directors. The Board adopted a new constitution at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 2 July, 2009. The Board members below served up to that time.

#### Executive

##### **Meg Larkin**

Chair

Arts Consultant, Tamworth  
*(Arts North West)*

##### **Phillip Silver**

Deputy Chair

Mayor of Ballina Shire Council  
*(Arts Northern Rivers)*

##### **Tony Kabrovski**

Treasurer

Chartered Accountant, Partner,  
HLB Mann Judd, Sydney  
*(Co-opted)*

#### Board Members

##### **Steve Baldwin**

Tourism Development Manager,  
Coonamble Shire Council  
*(Out Back Arts)*

##### **Aileen Bell**

Visitor Services Manager,  
Warrumbungle National Park  
*(Orana Arts ) Resigned 17 April, 2009*

##### **Daniel Bolger**

Director BYTEXT Media Management,  
Canberra *(Co-opted)*  
Resigned 17 April, 2009

##### **Lyn Cole**

Gallery Director / Curator,  
Cudgegong Gallery, Gulgong  
*(Arts OutWest)*

##### **Annemarie Dalziel**

Theatre Producer, Campbelltown  
Arts Centre *(STARTS)*

##### **Kym Fuller**

Manager Community & Economic  
Development, Central Darling  
Shire Council  
*(West Darling Arts)*

##### **Bernadette Haldane**

General Manager, HotHouse Theatre,  
Albury *(Murray Arts)*

##### **Bernadette Haldane**

Partner, Corporate & Commercial,  
Deacons, Sydney *(Co-opted)*

##### **Amanda Midlam**

Freelance writer,  
Eden *(SEAR)*

##### **Mave Richardson PSM**

Councillor, Greater Taree City Council  
*(Arts Mid North Coast)*

##### **Janice Summerhayes**

Director Environment and Community  
Services, Wagga Wagga City Council  
*(Co-opted)*

##### **Nichole Varley**

National Livestock Market Reporter,  
Meat & Livestock Aust, Finley.  
*(South West Arts)*



Board members enjoying lunch outside  
RANSW office following 2009 AGM

*Photo: RANSW*

## BOARD MEETINGS

The full Board met in Sydney on 17 April, 2 July.

The Annual General Meeting was held in Sydney on 17 April and an EGM was held in Sydney on 2 July.

### 2 July – 30 December

At the EGM on 2 July 2009, the Board adopted a new constitution under which the Regional Arts Boards became the members of the Company. This provided for five Directors to be appointed from regional NSW and four co-opted Directors. The following Directors were appointed:

#### Executive

##### **Meg Larkin**

Chair  
Arts Consultant, Tamworth  
Regional Director | New England  
North West

##### **Kym Fuller**

Deputy Chair  
Manager Community & Economic  
Development, Central Darling  
Shire Council  
Regional Director | Far West

##### **Calum Henderson**

Treasurer  
Partner | Corporate & Commercial,  
Deacons  
Co-opted Director | Sydney

#### Directors

##### **Lyn Cole**

Gallery Director / Curator,  
Cudgong Gallery, Gulgong  
Regional Director | Central West

##### **Annemarie Dalziel**

Theatre Producer,  
Campbelltown Arts Centre  
Co-opted Director | Southern Tablelands

##### **Bernadette Haldane**

General Manager, HotHouse Theatre  
Regional Director | South West

##### **Mave Richardson PSM**

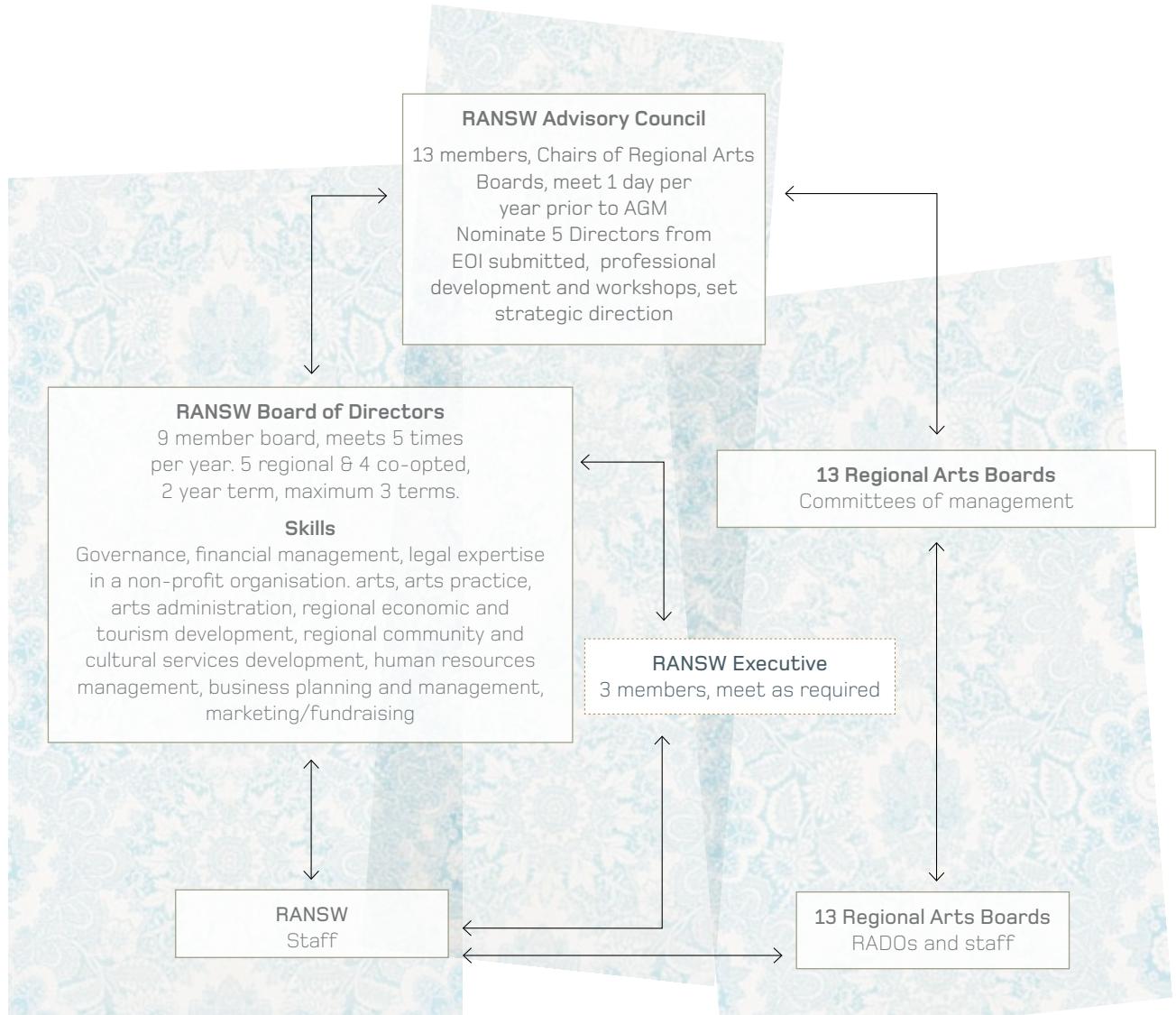
Councillor, Greater Taree City Council  
Regional Director | North Coast

##### **Janice Summerhayes**

Director Environment and Community  
Services, Wagga Wagga City Council  
Co-opted Director | Riverina

The new Board met in Sydney on 2 July, 10 September, 28 November.

## ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



## FROM THE CHAIR



2009 was a significant year of change and development for Regional Arts NSW.

The primary focus of RANSW's advocacy was to seek an increase in the funding provided by the NSW State Government, as partners with local government, in support of the thirteen Regional Arts Boards across the state. The amount sought for each Board was an additional \$35,000 per annum, to bring the State's annual contribution to \$120,000 to each Board. While we were not successful in achieving the full amount, in October the Minister for the Arts announced an increase of \$15,000 per annum for each of the Boards, bringing the state contribution to \$100,000. This additional funding will assist in increasing the capacity of the Regional Arts Boards to respond to the growing demands of their regions.

As the outcomes being achieved by each of the Regional Arts Boards continue to have significant benefits for regional communities, advocacy will continue in the coming year to further advance the financial contribution by the state government. Core funding for Regional Arts NSW moved from being subject to annual application, to being allocated triennially as a peak organisation representing the interests of Regional Arts Boards at a state and national level. The Country Arts Support Scheme (CASPS) received an additional one off amount of \$45,000 to supplement the grants administered by RANSW to local arts organisations across the state.

Major changes occurred in the structure of RANSW during the year. In the early part of the year the Board undertook a major review of its efficacy, as a representative Board of sixteen members. Among the issues addressed were the financial constraints of the organisation in bringing the Board together more than three times per year, which was considered insufficient for effective governance; the frequent turnover of Board members appointed by the



Regional Arts Boards; the difficulties encountered in maintaining a spread of skills and knowledge on the Board. The Regional Arts NSW Constitution was extensively revised to reflect a new structure. As the Regional Arts Boards became the members of the organisation, an Advisory Council comprising the Chairs of each Regional Arts Board (or their nominee) was established.

A nine member skills based Board comprising a minimum of five regional members, plus four co-opted positions to ensure a spread of the required skills, was established and commenced operation on 2 July 2009. To ensure continuity and smooth transition the five regional directors' positions became two year appointments, with two Board members standing down at the first AGM to create an alternating completion of terms. The new Board took office on 2 July 2009 and has been working well since that time.

I would like to thank the members of two Boards that were in office during 2009 for their contribution to what has been an unusually demanding situation. The initial

Board had the future welfare of Regional Arts NSW firmly in mind and scrupulously examined the options considered in the review. I appreciate the contribution of the Deputy Chairman, Cr Phillip Silver, and all other Board members for their input into what has turned a rather unwieldy structure into one that is better suited to carry on the business of Regional Arts NSW. The new Board has been working very well since July, 2009. Their commitment and enthusiasm for progressing the arts in the regions is very much appreciated.

The outline of operations in this document shows how Regional Arts NSW is punching well above its weight and proving to be a valuable and respected organisation. I thank Elizabeth Rogers for her leadership, professionalism and commitment to the arts in regional NSW. Again, she has travelled widely in the regions and has continued to manage the organisation and represent its interests to a wide range of stakeholders and funding bodies. She has led the small band of staff to achieve excellent and

timely services to the Regional Arts Boards across the state. The organisation is indeed fortunate to have this team of people working for regional and rural communities in NSW.

**Meg Larkin**  
Chair



L-R Ben Sibson, Annette Eassie, Palmarita  
D'Orazio, Elizabeth Rogers, Elinor Heard

*Photo: Matt Stewart*

## OUR PEOPLE

**Elizabeth Rogers**

Chief Executive Officer

**Annette Eassie**

Funding Manager

**Palmarita D'Orazio**

Finance Manager

**Ben Sibson**

Funding Officer

**Kate Reynolds**

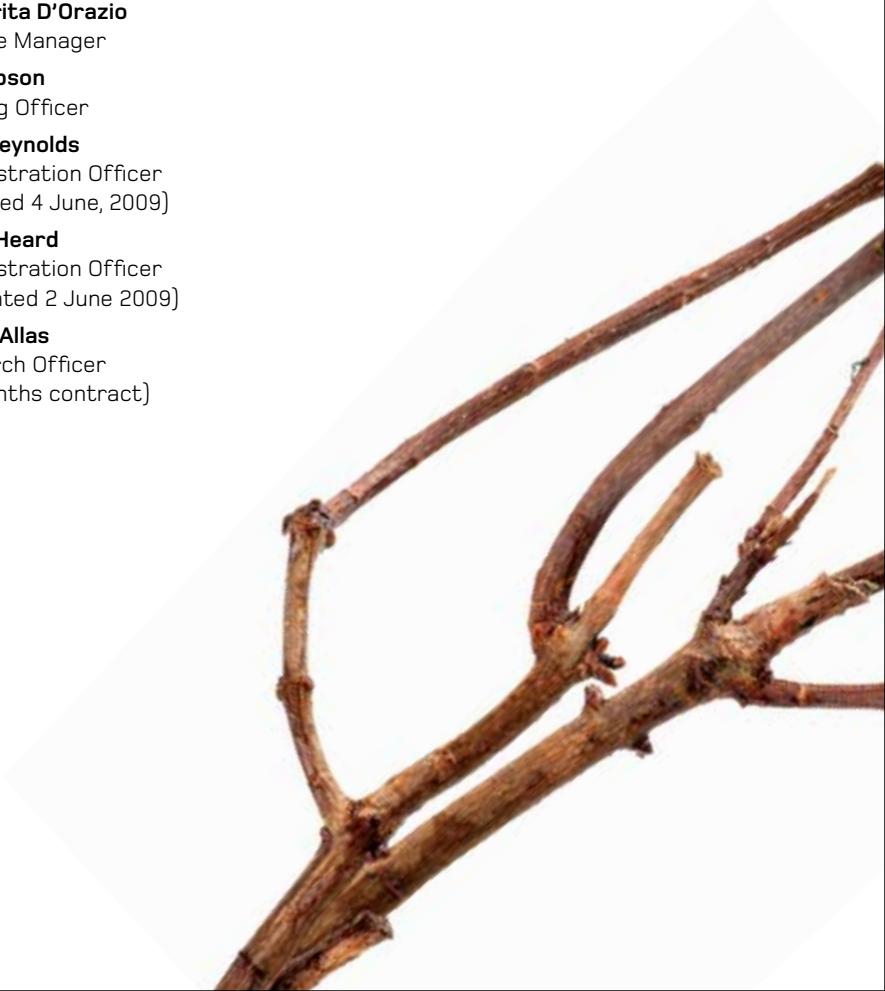
Administration Officer  
(resigned 4 June, 2009)

**Elinor Heard**

Administration Officer  
(appointed 2 June 2009)

**Ruben Allas**

Research Officer  
(12 months contract)



## ADVOCACY

### NSW GOVERNMENT

RANSW receives core funding from the NSW Government through Arts NSW as well as managing the devolved Country Arts Support Program annual small grants fund. During 2009, RANSW continued to work closely with the NSW Government advocating for the sector and providing advice on request to the Minister's office and Arts NSW.

- › Submitted a budget bid to the then Premier and Minister for the Arts for increased funding for the regional arts boards
- › Submission to the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry on Arts and Cultural Infrastructure Outside the Sydney CBD
- › Appeared before the Public Works Committee conducting the Inquiry into Arts and Cultural Infrastructure outside the Sydney CBD following written submission in 2008
- › Submitted a response to the Arts NSW Funding issues paper
- › Responded to the Arts NSW review on the Cultural Accord with the LGSA
- › Responded to the Arts NSW questionnaire for the Greening the Wharf project
- › Assisted Arts NSW with the preparation of business plan templates for the Regional Arts Boards
- › Co-ordinated interview times for the next round of triennial funding for the Regional Arts Boards and Arts NSW to coincide with the July RADO meeting in Sydney and acted as the information point between the RABs and Arts NSW in circulating answers to FAQs
- › Collaborated with Arts NSW to revise an agreed timetable for CASP announcements
- › Responded to consultants undertaking the audit of arts infrastructure for Arts NSW



**L-R** Jean Gaden, President Dunedoo Garden Group; Peter Shinton, Mayor Warrumbungle Shire; Elizabeth Rogers; David Sherlock

Launch of black swan sculpture  
Dunedoo Park

Funded by Regional Arts Fund

Artist: David Sherlock

*Photo: Merryn Spencer, Orana Arts*

- › Submitted a paper to Arts NSW on proposed regional Festivals funding
  - › Ongoing regular communication with Arts NSW Officers regarding Aboriginal Arts development and Creative Industries in regional NSW
  - › Responded through interview to the Museums and Galleries NSW review
  - › Regular briefing meetings with Ministerial arts advisors
  - › Provided briefing for Minister Judge when she agreed to be the guest speaker at the RANSW Annual Dinner
  - › Met with Minister Judge to discuss the RANSW Budget submission
  - › Supplied information requested for a motion in the House to Minister Judge's office
  - › Attended and participated in the State Plan Stakeholder Forum at Parliament House
  - › Funding Manager appointed to the Arts NSW assessment committee for ConnectEd program
  - › CEO appointed to the Arts NSW grants assessment panel for capital project applications
  - › CEO appointed to the Arts NSW grants assessment panel for Regional Conservatoriums funding
  - › Funding Manager appointed to the ArtStart Advisory Committee for TAFE Training and Educational Support
- RANSW continues to develop strategic relationships with other state agencies and peak bodies with a regional remit.
- › Tourism NSW provided advice and support with the development of a grant application, *Crafting Regional Growth workshops*
  - › Events NSW through representation on their Regional Events Group and presentation to the July RADO meeting
  - › Dept of State and Regional Development through assistance with developing the Arts Northern Rivers Artists' Speed-Dating project for delivery in other regions, support for the Country and Regional Living Expo and presentation on the Creative Industries strategy at the July RADO meeting
  - › Local Government and Shires Association (LGSA) through support for the Cultural Awards, regular meetings with the Cultural Officer and attendance at functions
  - › Arts peak bodies including Museums and Galleries NSW, Music NSW, Accessible Arts NSW, Arts on Tour, Sydney Arts Management Advisory Group, Currency House and Screen NSW

## ADVOCACY

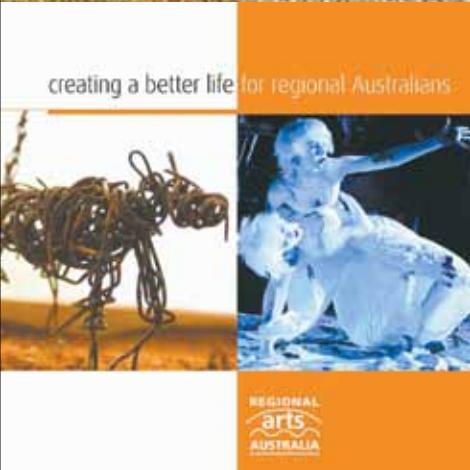


Image courtesy Regional Arts Australia

### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

RANSW receives funding from the Department Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA) through the Regional Arts Fund (RAF). Regional Arts Australia (RAA) is the national peak body and RANSW is represented on the board by the Chair and the CEO. In 2009 advocacy emerged as a key priority for the national body and the following activities were undertaken in response to this priority.

- › A round of meetings with Federal politicians in March at Parliament House in Canberra
- › A new national consultation with regional communities to review and update the National Directions document published in 2005 and to provide data to develop new priorities to take to the Federal government. The project consisted of two face to face consultations with regional communities, including local government representatives, in each state, a meeting with non-arts regional peak bodies in each capital city and an on-line survey. In NSW consultations were held

in Braidwood/Queanbeyan and Bathurst. The Sydney event was attended by key representatives from the CWA, Volunteering NSW, NSW Council of Social Services and the Country branch of the NSW P & C Association met at a working lunch which explored common regional issues in advocacy to the Federal Government and opportunities to develop more strategic relationships with these bodies at a state level

- › Publication of a new document that compiled the results of the national consultation, *Creating a Better Life for Regional Australians*
- › Hosting of a national forum in Canberra on 23 November attended by the Minister for the Arts, the Hon Peter Garrett AM, MP together with state and national arts agencies and peak bodies

## ADVOCACY



On the road to Lake Cargelligo, Central West  
Field Trip December, 09

**L-R** Tracey Callinan, RADO Arts OutWest,  
Louise Walsh, Director ArtSupport Australia,  
Kathy Keele, CEO Australia Council

*Photo: RANSW*

### AUSTRALIA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

RANSW continued to strengthen its relationships with the Australia Council through meeting the terms of our funding agreement as a key service organisation and attended the following:

- › National meeting of key service organisations in Melbourne,
- › Ros Bower Awards in Sydney
- › ABaF Awards in Brisbane
- › *Revealing the Arts Forum* co-hosted with the ABC in Ultimo which explored the issues and opportunities faced by artists and arts organisations working in new digital mediums. The Australia Council announced two new funding programs, a 'Geek in Residence' pilot and a Digital Culture Fund' and the ABC announced new developments for the arts including arts broadcasts on ABC1 and ABC 2 as well as a more integrated online service newly branded ABC Arts. Included in this on line presence is the RAA/ABC partnership Artpost which is now featured as part of ABC Arts brand to give a greater prominence to regional artists

In December Australia Council CEO, Kathy Keele and the Director of ArtSupport Australia, Louise Walsh joined RANSW CEO on the road for

a scheduled week long field trip through the Central West in December with the Arts OutWest RADO, Tracey Callinan to give them a snapshot of the successes and challenges facing arts and cultural development in regional NSW. Major regional centres, small towns and remote communities were included in the itinerary.

RANSW worked with other Federal Government agencies and national bodies including the Australian Business Arts Foundation (ABaF) to develop ways for the organisation to work more effectively in regional NSW and DEWHA and FaHCSIA officers to share information regarding Aboriginal arts development in NSW.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Across regional NSW, Councils are stakeholders in the Regional Arts Boards due to their financial contribution to the program. RANSW corresponds with Councils to advise them of state wide matters and the CEO regularly visits local government bodies during regional field trips. RANSW also maintains an ongoing relationship with the LGSA and presents an award at the annual LGSA Cultural Awards evening in Sydney. Local government is represented on the RANSW board.



## CAPACITY BUILDING



CASP project 2008 – Artist Pol Cruz works with students and community at Corinella Public School on a 3D mural – 2008

*Photo: Corinella PS*

### FUNDING PROGRAMS

RANSW continued to administer two grants programs for supporting the arts in regional NSW, the NSW Government's Country Arts Support Program (CASP) and the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund (RAF).

#### 1. COUNTRY ARTS SUPPORT PROGRAM & PROP UPS

CASP is an annual small grants program that supports community cultural development in regional NSW. Applications close in mid-February and successful applications are notified in late March.

The funding pool is divided evenly across the 14 regions, 13 RABs and one covering local government areas that do not contribute to a RAB. Applications are assessed by regional panels. In 2009, 142 projects totalling \$205,012 were approved for a diverse range of arts activities which included opera, oral history, totems, textiles, screen printing, song writing, filmmaking and fire art. The funds available for this program continue to fall well short of the demand and this year 207 applications were received requesting a total amount of \$418,843.

The CASP also includes a limited amount for Prop Ups (quick response grants) which provides assistance for performing arts projects, such as a touring production, that become available at short notice and outside the annual funding round. Although some regions prefer to allocate their Prop Ups allocation to meet the high demand for CASP funds, 7 projects totalling \$5100 were funded in 2009.

## CAPACITY BUILDING



Recipients of Quick Response Grants,  
**standing L-R** Christine McMillan,  
Judy Thompson, Dawn Thirlaway  
with RANSW Chair, Meg Larkin,  
Funding Manager, Annette Eassie,  
**seated** Yvonne Kiely, Arts Mid North Coast  
RADO, Richard Holloway. Funding enabled  
them to attend the Art of Health and  
Wellbeing Conference, Port Macquarie

*Photo: RANSW*

### REGIONAL ARTS FUND : COMMUNITY GRANTS & QUICK RESPONSE GRANTS

In 2009 RAF entered into the second year of its four year funding agreement with the DEWHA. The Community Grants program is designed to support arts and cultural activities that are sustainable, have long term cultural, economic and social benefits, develop partnerships and cultural networks and provide skills development opportunities. Multi-year projects can be funded under this program.

During 2009, 22 RAF projects totalling \$326,214 were delivered, including the first year of two 3 year projects and three 2 year projects.

The funding round closed in August for projects commencing in 2010. There was an unprecedented response to the RAF with 91 applications received and 20 new projects funded totalling \$271,600, including the first year of one 3 year project and three 2 year projects. An additional \$97,160 was approved for the second year of the 5 multiple year projects.

The RAF also delivers the Quick Response Grants program for which \$10,000 is allocated to each quarter of the year. The Quick Response Grants program supports professional development for artists or skills or arts development for community projects and, in 2009, 36 projects totalling \$39,551 were funded.

## CAPACITY BUILDING



Annette Eassie, Funding Manager delivering workshop in Grenfell

*Photo: Arts OutWest*

### **FUNDING DEVELOPMENT:** *TARGETED COMMUNITIES*

This project is a RAF Strategic Initiative Project and aims to increase the number and quality of grant applications submitted by communities that currently do not access the RAF through building their capacity to be competitive. This project is managed by the Funding Manager and involves conducting Funding Workshops in specific communities across regional NSW targeted for assistance in consultation with the regional arts Network and on the basis of research into funding history.

In 2009 workshops were conducted by the Funding Manager and Funding Officer in Broken Hill, Northern Rivers (Grafton, Murwillumbah and Lismore), Inverell, Grenfell, South East (Moruya and Bega), Orana (Dunedoo and Narromine) and Griffith. 235 participants from approximately 60 regional communities attended and included artists in many different artforms, local government representatives, Cultural and Community Development workers, Health workers, Project Managers, Executive Officers,

Administrators, Festival Directors, Event Managers, Committee members, Youth Workers, Gallery Owners, Business Managers.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Regional Arts NSW supported the inaugural The Art of Good Health and Wellbeing International Arts and Health Conference held in Port Macquarie, 10 – 13 November by promoting it through the website and e-bulletin and funding regional artists to attend through applications received for Quick Response Grants. This is a field that is growing and provides artists and arts organisations with new opportunities for projects and new audiences. It is significant that the first conference was held in the high growth Mid North Coast region of NSW.



## COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING



Ben Sibson: Funding Officer delivering workshop in Griffith

*Photo: RANSW*

The monthly e-bulletin and the website are the main communication tools and content is continuously refined and updated.

- › 11 monthly e-bulletins were transmitted during 2009 (Dec/Jan editions are combined)
- › 3,548 subscribers now receive the e-bulletin, an increase of over 500 from the previous year
- › Website content is updated on an ongoing basis. A significant new section was the development of the Grants Section which was comprehensively extended to cover all grants programs available to the arts sector together with a two way search function, by title or by closing date. This has given the RABs the opportunity to link directly to the website without having to duplicate the information
- › The website now has a secure log-in for directors to access board papers and other documents and a similar facility is planned for RADOs
- › Two new sections have been created, one to feature great regional projects and the second to operate as a 'blog' to record regional travel. Population of these sections will take place in 2010

## COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

### WEBSITE STATISTICS

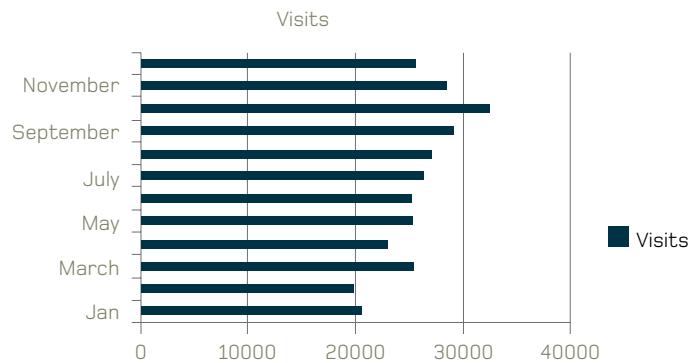
#### Traffic and Activity Summary – RANSW website 2009

|                     | Visits   | Page Views | Page Views<br>per Visit | Time Spent<br>per Visit | Hits      | Downloads | Bandwidth GBs |
|---------------------|----------|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| <b>Jan</b>          | 20587    | 56223      | 2.73                    | 6.37                    | 329822    | 175770    | 6.45          |
| <b>Feb</b>          | 19745    | 34588      | 1.75                    | 5.49                    | 320964    | 183386    | 4.45          |
| <b>March</b>        | 25331    | 47294      | 1.87                    | 5.27                    | 432909    | 251225    | 5.69          |
| <b>April</b>        | 22919    | 38937      | 1.7                     | 5.12                    | 369524    | 216471    | 4.96          |
| <b>May</b>          | 25229    | 105174     | 4.17                    | 5.58                    | 480327    | 245204    | 10.91         |
| <b>June</b>         | 25154    | 126362     | 5.02                    | 6.41                    | 481472    | 224381    | 11.23         |
| <b>July</b>         | 26238    | 50268      | 1.91                    | 5.02                    | 499092    | 303971    | 5.99          |
| <b>August</b>       | 27100    | 36879      | 1.36                    | 4.33                    | 502360    | 330498    | 5.62          |
| <b>September</b>    | 29098    | 40360      | 1.39                    | 4.24                    | 534114    | 366620    | 5.59          |
| <b>October</b>      | 32342    | 45082      | 1.39                    | 4.09                    | 514470    | 338417    | 5.72          |
| <b>November</b>     | 28388    | 47564      | 1.68                    | 4.45                    | 548108    | 367466    | 8.65          |
| <b>December</b>     | 25481    | 42922      | 1.68                    | 5.26                    | 420097    | 268099    | 6.97          |
| <b>Average 2009</b> | 25634.33 | 55971.08   | 2.22                    | 5.14                    | 452771.58 | 272625.67 | 6.85          |

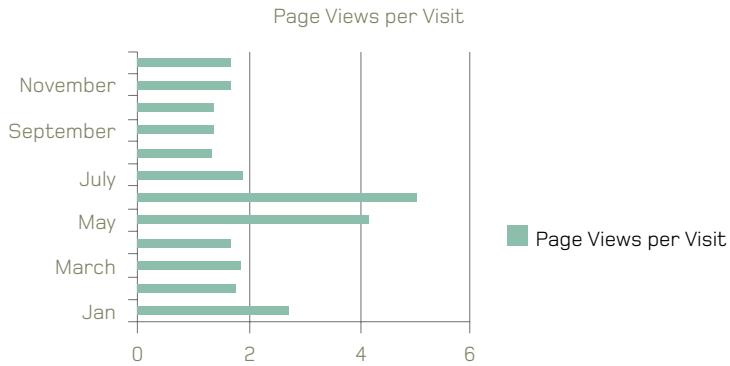
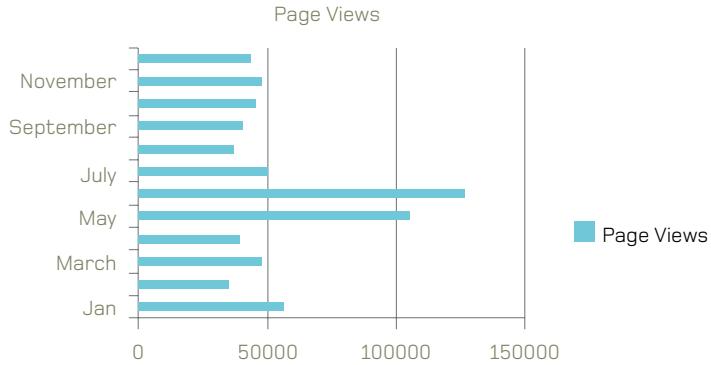
## COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

### TRENDS

| Trends                         | 1st     | 2nd       |
|--------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Busiest Months Visits          | October | September |
| Busiest Months Page Hits       | June    | May       |
| Busiest Months views per visit | June    | May       |
| Busiest Months Time Spent      | June    | May       |
| Busiest Months Bandwidth GBs   | June    | May       |



## COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING



## COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING



Arts Northern Rivers Field Trip  
October 2009

Jyllie Jackson from Lighten Up - Lismore  
Lantern Parade with Elizabeth Rogers.

*Photo: Kaley Morrissey*

- › Print material was distributed to conference attendees during the Arts + Health Conference in Port Macquarie
- › An article on music in regional NSW was written and published in the June edition of the Australia Music Centre's *Resonate* journal
- › A back issue of *ArtReach* featuring music was supplied for distribution by Music NSW
- › A CD was developed with a presentation of project images that was looped continuously from a large screen at the DSRD stand Country & Regional Living Expo, 7- 9 August to promote arts activities in regional NSW
- › The partnership with RAA and SBS resulted in a series of vignettes being developed and screened throughout the year nationally to both regional and metropolitan audiences and was very successful in raising the profile of RAA and RANSW. The NSW featured story was the work of 'fling physical Theatre in Bega
- › The CEO gave a number of regional radio and newspaper interviews during field trips



## SUPPORT & SERVICES



RADOs at Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre. Meeting November 09

*Photo: Kerry Ellen, Orana Arts.*

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

RANSW provides accounting and tax services, group insurance policies, and professional advice for the regional Network. In 2009

- › Lodged FBT returns for 5 regional boards
- › Provided ongoing advice on various accounting and tax issues
- › Provided fleet management services for 4 vehicles
- › Group public liability insurance now covers 65 regional arts organisations
- › Managed group policies for association liability insurance for all regional arts boards
- › provided volunteers' personal accident and sickness insurance for 83 regional arts entities
- › property insurance for 7 regional arts boards
- › motor vehicle insurance for 5 vehicles

These group policies provide substantial savings for the participating organisations.

### STATE – WIDE DATABASE PROJECT

Following a demonstration to the Board and regional staff members in 2007, it was agreed to undertake further development of the initial RANSW Grant Management System to incorporate an extensive integrated Customer Relationship Management System through a web based on line interface. This project continued to expand during 2009 and will deliver substantial benefits to all regions when it is completed. It has addressed many issues to accommodate the diverse needs of the regional boards and the initial timeframes has been consciously extended to ensure that it is as effective and user friendly as possible. As of February 2010, seven of the 13 Regional Arts Boards have imported their data to the system and have full access. The usage of these

## SUPPORT & SERVICES



Aboriginal art class Lake Cargelligo TAFE

*Photo: Tracey Callinan*

regions is being monitored and ranges from minor and sporadic information retrieval to fully blown replacement of all contact management systems. A discussion on the usage practices of various regions will take place at the next RADO meeting on 16th March, which will extend existing experience sharing between users and hopefully encourage a greater sense of ownership and improve usage practices.

An agreement was reached between RANSW and Arts OutWest to waive the initial access fee in return for Arts OutWest co-investing in the development of a system to publish selected information fields stored within the database on their publicly available website. The work already done in this area will be expanded upon in the second stage of database development with an aim to creating a RANSW hosted series of web pages that will provide this web publication service to all Regional Arts Boards that are signed up to the database. This should provide an invaluable and easy-to-use web marketing tool for regional events and a search engine to locate artists, venues

and arts organisations within a geographical area, all with no extra technological investment from the Regional Arts Boards.

### INDIGENOUS ARTS RESEARCH PROJECTS

In 2009 RANSW conducted two research projects on Indigenous arts in NSW.

The first project was undertaken between February and June with the assistance of funding from the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) through the Emerging Indigenous Entrepreneur Initiative program. It involved research on economically sustainable Indigenous artists' ventures in NSW, including the mapping of existing Indigenous arts centres, art businesses and artists, exploring key market areas and researching relevant funding programs and services.

The second project received funding assistance from Arts NSW to conduct a training needs analysis and skills audit of Aboriginal artists

## SUPPORT & SERVICES

and arts organisations in NSW. Much of this research relied on data collected through field trips with 33 towns visited over a six month period covering 11 of the 13 RABs plus groups in Illawarra / Shoalhaven and Griffith / Leeton.

A Research Officer, Ruben Allas was employed to carry out both projects.

### **ARC LINKAGE GRANT: CULTURAL ASSET MAPPING**

Cultural Asset Mapping for Planning and Development in Regional Australia (CAMRA) is a major, 2.5 million dollar Australian Research Council and industry funded project running from 2008 to 2013. RANSW is a partner in this project which aims to provide planners, policy-makers and communities in regional Australia with the knowledge they need to make better-informed planning decisions for more effective development of their local arts and cultural industries.

Highlights of the CAMRA asset mapping projects during 2009 included the activities in Wollongong and the Central Darling Shire. A series of successful mapping lounges around 'cool' and 'creative' Wollongong were undertaken. In

Central Darling Shire the survey of community leaders asked them questions about what they make and buy locally, where they take visitors and what inspires them about where they live. This has so far yielded some rich responses that have been plotted onto Google Maps.

### **NETWORK MEETINGS**

There were three, 2 day Network meetings for regional arts board staff members held 24 & 25 March, 28 & 29 July and 24 & 25 November. The March meeting was held at the Australia Council and included a three hour training session from Community Partnerships for all regional staff, a briefing session with Mary Darwell and Michelle Roberson from Arts NSW on the process for the next triennial funding agreement and a briefing session on insurance matters. The July meeting focussed on RADO business including working with local government, financial management, working with boards, communications, funding, regional events and creative industries. The November meeting was held at the Campbelltown Arts Centre to familiarise regional staff with

the arts facilities in Western Sydney. After a tour of Campbelltown Arts Centre, they visited Casula Powerhouse and Blacktown Arts Centre and heard presentations from Parramatta City Council and Penrith Regional Arts Centres.

The annual national RADO meeting, supported by Regional Arts Australia, was held in Geelong on 1 October. Facilitated by Anne Dunn, the meeting discussed a number of matters to feed back in the Regional Arts Australia national agenda as well as giving an opportunity for networking and information exchange for the attendees from all states.

RANSW hosted an informal 'pub' dinner on 28 July for all regional staff to farewell RADOs Nina O'Brien Hehir and Angela Sidoti, to welcome new RANSW staff members, Elinor Heard and Ruben Allas and new RADO, Tracey Callinan (Arts OutWest), to the Network. Guests from Arts NSW, Hugo Leschen and Michael Goss also attended.

## SUPPORT & SERVICES



NSW RADOs at meeting in Sydney, Nov 2008

*Photo: RANSW*

### RADO RECRUITMENT

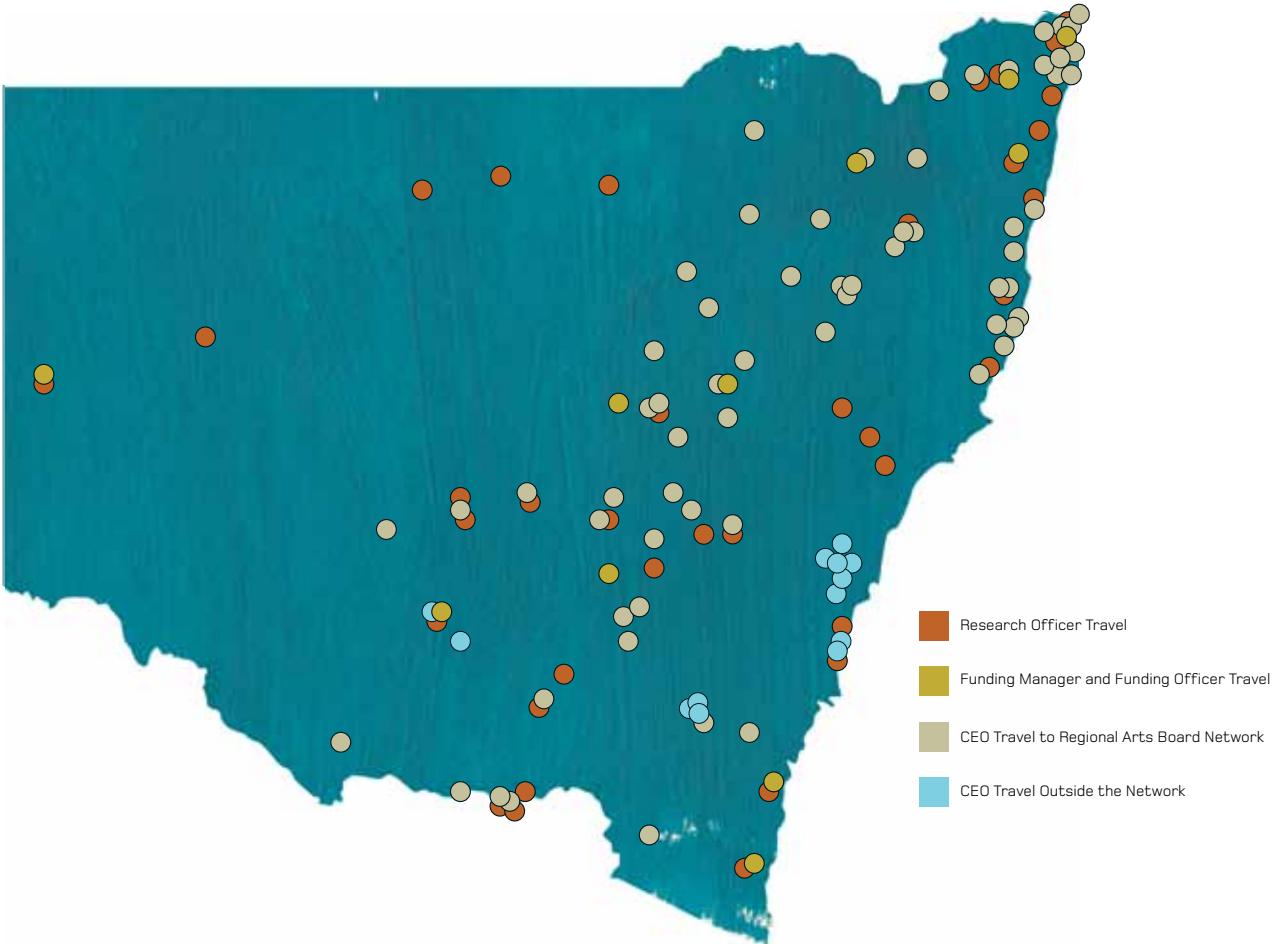
The Network said farewell to three regional arts development officers this year. Angela Sidoti left Out Back Arts to return to Sydney, Nina O'Brien- Hehir left South West Arts to take up a new position in Deniliquin and Jack Ritchie left Arts North West to take up a newly created position as Local Employment Coordinator for the Hunter/Central Coast region. All three RADO's made enormous contributions their regions. Nina started in the network as the founding RADO Orana Arts then transferred to South West Arts. Jack served nearly 14 years as a RADO creating a record period of time in this very demanding position and left a significant legacy of achievement for Arts North West. The new appointments for 2009 were Tracey Callinan (Arts OutWest), Alyce Fisher (South West Arts), Jamie-Lea Hodges (Out Back Arts) and Jane Kreis (Arts North West). The CEO worked with the Chairs and the boards, providing advice, developing recruitment schedules, ad copy, position descriptions, sample contracts as well as participating in the short listing process and sitting on the interview panels.

### REGIONAL TRAVEL

There was a significant amount of regional travel undertaken this year by the CEO, Funding Manager and Officer and the Research Officer. The CEO continued to travel extensively to attend regional board meetings, meet with regional councils and arts organisations and to attend events to provide support for the regional staff and regional arts boards. Extended field trips were also scheduled to gain more in depth knowledge of individual regions. There was additional travel to Gold Coast, Canberra, Brisbane and Adelaide by the Chair and CEO to fulfill their responsibilities as Directors of the Board of Regional Arts Australia and the Funding Manager travelled to Adelaide to attend a RAF Managers meeting.

As part of the RAF Strategic Initiative project, Targeted Communities Stage 2, staff delivered a series of funding workshops in the regions and the Research Officer made a number of field trips during the two research projects undertaken this year.

SUPPORT & SERVICES



## MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE



Pilliga Discovery Centre, Baradine. Elizabeth Rogers and Bob Sutherland.

*Photo: Kerry Ellen, Orana Arts*

### BOARD MATTERS

A new structure for Regional Arts NSW was adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting in Sydney on 2 July 2009.

Regional Arts NSW is constituted as a Company Limited by Guarantee, and up to that date the members of the Company were the Directors, generally the Chairs of each Regional Arts Board (or their nominee), plus additional co-opted members. At the EGM on 2 July the membership basis of the organisation changed, and the Regional Arts Boards, as entities, became the members of the company.

The Chairs of each RAB (or their nominees) now act as an Advisory Council that meets annually to provide strategic and policy direction and advocacy priorities to a 9 member Board of Directors who will undertake the implementation of those directions and the governance of RANSW on their behalf. The Advisory Council will appoint 5 regional directors and there are four additional positions on the board for co-opted members to complement the skills mix of the regional directors.

To implement this change to the structure of the organisation RANSW followed a process of consultation and deliberation.

To fully meet the requirements of the Corporations Act a new Constitution was developed and adopted. Acting on the legal advice of Director, Calum Henderson, the constitution was completely redrafted with considerable pro bono support from Deacons Lawyers (now Norton Rose).

The new Board meets at least five times per year rather than three. The new constitution was formally adopted at the EGM on 2 July and all reporting and advice to all relevant government bodies including ASIC, ATO, ROCO and the NSW Office of Charities was completed and accepted. Minutes and reports are circulated to all Members (RABs) together with a newsletter from the Chair following each Board meeting.

## MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE



**Top:** Andrew Hull and Jen Sheering at 2009 AGM

*Photo: RANSW*

### FUNDING MATTERS

#### Arts NSW

- › Completed the first year of a three year negotiated funding agreement with Arts NSW, acquitted the grant on time, submitted a revised business plan and budget for 2010
- › Received an additional one off amount of \$30,000 to support operations mid-year
- › Received \$60,000 to undertake a research project titled Determining Training And Education Needs in the NSW Indigenous Visual Arts Sector
- › Received a one-off increase of \$45,000 for the 2010 CASP round plus \$2,000 in assistance for the November RADO meeting

#### Regional Arts Fund DEWHA

See report under Funding Programs.

#### Australia Council

Completed the second of the three year agreement with the Australia Council under Community Partnerships as a key service organisation.

#### DEEWR

Completed the state wide research project on Indigenous arts centre development. The project, entitled Identification of Economic Engagement Opportunities in the Indigenous Arts Industry in NSW, funded by the Department Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) was delivered in June, 2009

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Extract from 2009 audited accounts. For full report visit website [regionalartsnsw.com.au](http://regionalartsnsw.com.au)

### DIRECTORS' REPORT

#### Regional Arts NSW Ltd and Controlled Entity

##### **Auditor's Independence Declaration under s307C of the Corporations Act 2001**

To the Directors of Regional Arts NSW Ltd:

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 31 December 2009 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor's independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



STEVEN J MILLER & CO  
Chartered Accountant



S J MILLER  
Principal

Sydney

Dated 8/4/2010

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### INCOME STATEMENT

for the year ended 31 December 2009  
Regional Arts NSW Ltd and Controlled Entity

|   | Note | CONSOLIDATED ENTITY |               | PARENT ENTITY |              |
|---|------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
|   |      | 2009                | 2008          | 2009          | 2008         |
|   |      | \$                  | \$            | \$            | \$           |
| Revenue   | 3    | 616,046             | 639,645       | 613,339       | 630,654      |
| Administration expenses   |      | (63,833)            | (67,193)      | (55,774)      | (61,379)     |
| Committee and conference expenses                               |      | (26,374)            | (58,122)      | (26,374)      | (58,122)     |
| Depreciation and amortisation expenses                          | 4    | (41,454)            | (24,988)      | (41,454)      | (24,988)     |
| Employee benefits expense                                       | 4    | (359,636)           | (335,430)     | (359,636)     | (335,430)    |
| Marketing expenses  |      | (14,652)            | (18,489)      | (14,652)      | (18,489)     |
| Motor vehicle expense   |      | (14,900)            | (16,082)      | (14,900)      | (16,082)     |
| Premises expenses   |      | (27,814)            | (34,692)      | (27,814)      | (34,692)     |
| Project expenses  |      | (27,041)            | (60,123)      | (27,041)      | (60,123)     |
| Travel expenses   |      | (17,453)            | (13,907)      | (17,453)      | (13,907)     |
|   |      | <u>22,889</u>       | <u>10,619</u> | <u>28,241</u> | <u>7,442</u> |
| Surplus attributable to the members<br>of Regional Arts NSW Ltd |      |                     |               |               |              |

The above income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2009

Regional Arts NSW Ltd and Controlled Entity

|                                     | Note | CONSOLIDATED ENTITY |                | PARENT ENTITY    |                |
|-------------------------------------|------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
|                                     |      | 2009                | 2008           | 2009             | 2008           |
|                                     |      | \$                  | \$             | \$               | \$             |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                       |      |                     |                |                  |                |
| Current assets                      |      |                     |                |                  |                |
| Cash and cash equivalents           | 5    | 1,275,610           | 345,573        | 1,206,320        | 278,507        |
| Trade and other receivables         | 6    | 5,607               | 484,321        | 5,607            | 484,321        |
| Available for sale financial assets | 7    | 1,128               | 1,128          | 1,128            | 1,128          |
| Total current assets                |      | <u>1,282,345</u>    | <u>831,022</u> | <u>1,213,055</u> | <u>763,956</u> |
| Non-current assets                  |      |                     |                |                  |                |
| Plant and equipment                 | 8    | 22,619              | 26,823         | 22,619           | 26,823         |
| Intangible assets                   | 9    | 85,140              | 111,562        | 85,140           | 111,562        |
| Total non-current assets            |      | <u>107,759</u>      | <u>138,385</u> | <u>107,759</u>   | <u>138,385</u> |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                 |      | <u>1,390,104</u>    | <u>969,407</u> | <u>1,320,814</u> | <u>902,341</u> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                  |      |                     |                |                  |                |
| Current liabilities                 |      |                     |                |                  |                |
| Trade and other payables            | 10   | 59,111              | 64,201         | 51,411           | 64,201         |
| Employee benefits                   | 11   | 10,923              | 12,721         | 10,923           | 12,721         |
| Government grants                   | 12   | 890,763             | 485,063        | 890,763          | 485,063        |
| Unearned income                     | 13   | -                   | 496            | -                | 372            |
| Total current liabilities           |      | <u>960,797</u>      | <u>562,481</u> | <u>953,097</u>   | <u>562,357</u> |
| Non-current liabilities             |      |                     |                |                  |                |
| Employee benefits                   | 11   | 6,387               | 6,895          | 6,387            | 6,895          |
| Total non-current liabilities       |      | <u>6,387</u>        | <u>6,895</u>   | <u>6,387</u>     | <u>6,895</u>   |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>            |      | <u>967,184</u>      | <u>569,376</u> | <u>959,484</u>   | <u>569,252</u> |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                   |      | <u>422,920</u>      | <u>400,031</u> | <u>361,330</u>   | <u>333,089</u> |
| <b>EQUITY</b>                       |      |                     |                |                  |                |
| Accumulated funds                   |      | <u>422,920</u>      | <u>400,031</u> | <u>361,330</u>   | <u>333,089</u> |

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the year ended 31 December 2009

Regional Arts NSW Ltd and Controlled Entity

|                               | CONSOLIDATED ENTITY |                | Parent Entity  |                |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                               | 2009                | 2008           | 2009           | 2008           |
|                               | \$                  | \$             | \$             | \$             |
| <b>Balance at 1 January</b>   | 400,031             | 389,412        | 333,089        | 325,647        |
| Surplus for the year          | 22,889              | 10,619         | 28,241         | 7,442          |
| <b>Balance at 31 December</b> | <u>422,920</u>      | <u>400,031</u> | <u>361,330</u> | <u>333,089</u> |

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the year ended 31 December 2009

Regional Arts NSW Ltd and Controlled Entity

|   | Note | CONSOLIDATED ENTITY     |                       | PARENT ENTITY           |                       |
|---|------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|   |      | 2009                    | 2008                  | 2009                    | 2008                  |
|   |      | \$                      | \$                    | \$                      | \$                    |
| Cash flows from operating activities                              |      |                         |                       |                         |                       |
| <i>Receipts</i>   |      |                         |                       |                         |                       |
| Receipts from customers   |      | 52,492                  | 46,870                | 52,492                  | 46,870                |
| Dividends received  |      | 63                      | 143                   | 63                      | 143                   |
| Donations received  |      | 500                     | 5,400                 | -                       | -                     |
| Interest received   |      | 18,074                  | 33,928                | 15,991                  | 30,356                |
| <i>Cash flows from government</i>                                 |      |                         |                       |                         |                       |
| Receipts from appropriations/grants                               |      | 1,587,169               | 261,569               | 1,587,169               | 261,569               |
| <i>Payments</i>   |      |                         |                       |                         |                       |
| Wages and salaries  |      | (320,551)               | (288,410)             | (320,551)               | (288,410)             |
| Other suppliers   |      | (396,882)               | (277,170)             | (396,523)               | (271,356)             |
| <b>Net cash generated/(used) by operating activities</b>          | 18   | <u>940,865</u>          | <u>(217,670)</u>      | <u>938,641</u>          | <u>(220,828)</u>      |
| Cash flows from investing activities                              |      |                         |                       |                         |                       |
| Payments for plant, equipment and intangibles                     |      | <u>(10,828)</u>         | <u>(56,835)</u>       | <u>(10,828)</u>         | <u>(56,835)</u>       |
| <b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>                      |      | <u>(10,828)</u>         | <u>(56,835)</u>       | <u>(10,828)</u>         | <u>(56,835)</u>       |
| <b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held</b>  |      | 930,037                 | (274,505)             | 927,813                 | (277,663)             |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year  |      | <u>345,573</u>          | <u>620,078</u>        | <u>278,507</u>          | <u>556,170</u>        |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year</b> | 5    | <u><u>1,275,610</u></u> | <u><u>345,573</u></u> | <u><u>1,206,320</u></u> | <u><u>278,507</u></u> |

The above cash flow statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

The directors of the company declare that:

1. the financial statements and notes of the company and of the consolidated entity, are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*;
  - a. comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
  - b. give a true and fair view of the company's and consolidated entity's financial position as at 31 December 2009 and of their performance for the year ended on that date.
2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the board of directors.



**MEG LARKIN**

Director

Sydney

Dated 8/4/2010

### INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

#### To the members of Regional Arts NSW Ltd

##### **Report on the financial report**

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Regional Arts NSW Ltd (the Company), for the financial year ended 31 December 2009, which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2009 and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration of the consolidated entity comprising the Company and the entity it controlled at year's end or from time to time during the financial year.

##### *Directors' responsibility for the financial report*

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances. In Note 2, the directors also state in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, that the financial report comprising the financial statements and notes, complies with International Financial Reporting Standards.

##### *Auditor's responsibility*

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

#### To the members of Regional Arts NSW Ltd continued

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

#### *Independence*

In conducting my audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

#### *Auditor's opinion pursuant to the Corporations Act 2001*

In my opinion, the financial report of Regional Arts NSW Ltd is in accordance with;

a. the Corporations Act 2001, including

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of Regional Arts NSW Ltd and the consolidated entity as at 31 December 2009 and of their performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

b. The financial report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.



STEVEN J MILLER & CO

Chartered Accountant



S J MILLER

Principal

Sydney

Dated 8/4/2010



**Communities  
arts nsw**



**Australian Government  
Regional Arts Fund**



**Australian Government**



Regional Arts NSW is a member of Regional Arts Australia