For arts and cultural development
and activities that build positive futures
for regional communities across
New South Wales
There are 14 Regional Arts Development Organisations in NSW, each providing strategic direction for sustainable arts and cultural development in their region.

01 Arts Northern Rivers
02 Arts Mid North Coast
03 Arts North West
04 Arts Upper Hunter
05 Orana Arts
06 Arts OutWest
07 Southern Tablelands Arts
08 South East Arts
09 Eastern Riverina Arts
10 Western Riverina Arts
11 Murray Arts
12 South West Arts
13 Outback Arts
14 West Darling Arts
Regional Arts NSW is the peak body and service agency for arts and cultural development in regional NSW. Our vision is to connect, advocate and amplify arts and culture in regional NSW.

We aim to achieve this through:
- Strengthening and supporting the network of Regional Arts Development Organisations in NSW
- Strengthening, developing and maintaining our grants programs
- Fostering and promoting the value of the arts and cultural sector in a local, regional and national context
- Playing a key role in supporting the ongoing development of a vibrant and sustainable regional Aboriginal arts and cultural sector
- Demonstrating leadership in effective governance and sustainable management.
From the Chair

The role of a peak organisation, no matter what the industry, is always complex, challenging and rewarding. The work undertaken is vital to the on-going viability of the sector the organisation represents but is often unseen, and this is certainly the case with much of what Regional Arts NSW (RANSW) does.

As the peak organisation for regional arts in NSW, RANSW through its CEO, staff and board work hard to support the 14 Regional Arts Development Organisations (RADOs) we represent, their staff, boards and the artists and arts organisations that choose to make regional NSW their home. Choosing to make regional NSW home comes with unique challenges for artists and arts organisations, perhaps the most pressing of which is distance from our capital city, Sydney. RANSW creates a bridge between the regions and the city and it does this quietly, in a myriad of unseen ways. RANSW takes its role of promoting the needs of the regions very seriously and our CEO, Elizabeth Rogers and our board members take every opportunity presented, and create many of our own to speak about and promote arts in the regions.

We regularly engage with the Arts Minister, Hon Don Harwin MLC and the Parliamentary Secretary for the Arts, Hon Ben Franklin MLC using those opportunities to speak about funding pressures on our RADOs and the need to engage, connect and recognise the value and quality of the arts in regional NSW. Elizabeth meets regularly with Create NSW to provide feedback on proposed projects and funding, to lobby for not just increased funding but also for recognition of the value of arts in the regions. She uses these interactions to inform herself and the network of the future directions of Create NSW and to disseminate that information to the RADO network at large and provide the network with the opportunity to provide comment.

RANSW meets regularly with other peak bodies based in NSW, as well as national organisations like NAVA and Regional Arts Australia (RAA) where we have a seat on the board and Elizabeth is part of the CEO’s Group. On the RAA CEO’s Group Elizabeth meets regularly with the CEOs from the other regional arts’ peak bodies from across Australia to inform RAA lobbying activities, project delivery and the formation of funding guidelines, particularly for the federally-funded Regional Arts Fund. We are also in regular contact with the Federal Government Arts agency.

RANSW is therefore constantly facing outwards, seeking opportunities to further the goals of the organisations we represent. However, this is not to minimise the importance of the inwards facing work. This is the work that we do directly to support the 14 RADOs, the thousands of kilometres a year that Elizabeth and our other staff cover to attend RADO Board meetings, meet with local councils, attend openings and to generally provide face-to-face support to those on-the-ground. No matter what the problem that a RADO is facing, Elizabeth can be counted on to be at the other end of the phone to talk to an ED or Chair and provide advice based on her extensive knowledge of the sector. We are also able to count on and utilise the skills of our highly qualified board to provide additional support where needed.

RANSW support includes the regular meetings arranged for EDs and their communicators staff in Sydney, where there is always the opportunity to hear from Create NSW as well as other professionals. Our annual meeting of the Advisory Committee provides the opportunity for the Chairs from all our member RADOs to come together to talk about what is happening in their region, to speak to the RANSW Board about their concerns and by extension inform RANSW’s lobbying activities.

Over the last 3 years it has all come together at Artstate, an amazing celebration of arts in the regions. Through Artstate RANSW provides valuable professional development opportunities to artists, arts workers and arts organisations by bringing world class speakers to a regional area. It also showcases the best of arts practice, by engaging professional artists that have chosen to make regional NSW their home.

Artstate is our marquee event and one that we are very proud of. We are also very grateful to Minister Harwin, the Hon Ben Franklin and the local members who make their valuable time available to attend the event. This year the local member for Tamworth, Hon Kevin Anderson went one step further with his band providing the entertainment at the Artstate dinner.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the other members of our Board for all the work and commitment they provide to the organisation. Our staff are amazing, and the Board is extremely grateful to them for their investment in our organisation. They believe in the value and importance of arts in the regions and they convey that belief at every opportunity. This year we welcomed Patrick Healey to the team, into a new position of General Manager, the Board believes this will further strengthen our service delivery to the sector.

Finally, a big thank you to our CEO Elizabeth Rogers, whose unfailing energy, drive and commitment to RANSW and arts in regional Australia underpins the on-going success of our organisation.

Julie Briggs
RANSW
Chair
One of the themes for Artstate Tamworth’s Speakers program was Arts in the Age of Anxiety and it proved to be eerily prescient for all of 2019. Globally the world was looking at Brexit being dragged out in the UK, a possible trade war between China and the USA, ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and natural disasters everywhere.

Here we faced two elections, the state election in March and the federal election in May and the subsequent changes in administrative arrangements that affected the sector. While we welcomed a new federal Arts Minister, Sen. Paul Fletcher, there was little immediate impact on the arts programs and we were appreciative of his timely announcements of grants, and in particular the Regional Arts Fund. This is a vital grant program for arts organisations in regional NSW and it does reduce the stress levels of applicants when they are informed of their success or otherwise in a timely manner. We received 66 applicants for the 2020 grant round but were only able to recommend for support 18 projects. We continue to work with our colleagues at Regional Arts Australia for an increase to this funding pool to meet some of the unmet demand.

We were also pleased that we were to continue to administer the Country Arts Support Program for the NSW Government for 2020 projects. This small grant program is so valuable to rural and regional communities for local arts projects. We continually share inspirational RAF and CASP projects on our website. I’d like to commend Lexie Reeves for the fine job she does administering these grant programs.

We welcomed back the NSW Arts Minister, the Hon Don Harwin MLC following the state election and the Create NSW agency moved to Department of Premier and Cabinet. This involved a number of personnel changes, an internal restructure and reform of the grants program and assessment process in response to a review. RANSW and the network of RADOs continue to operate throughout 2019 and 2020 on their current contracts while Create NSW undertakes a review of service organisations. Both RANSW and the RADOs as a group responded to the draft Terms of Reference. At the time of writing we have not received any further information about the review or the processes for applying for the next round of funding expected to take place in 2021.

RANSW and the network has been advocating strongly throughout the year for an increase to the core funding for each RADO.

We delivered our third iteration of Artstate in Tamworth this year. It was well attended by delegates from regional and metropolitan areas and congratulations to Dr Greg Pritchard for curating an arts program showcasing the strengths and diversity of arts practice in this region. Greg was well supported by Caroline Downer, Arts North West and Peter Ross and Bridget Guthrie from Tamworth Regional Council to bring it all together. A strong Aboriginal voice is a feature of every Artstate and meeting on Gamilaroi Country enabled us to bring artists and leaders together to share culture and join the conversation.

Regional NSW has been besieged by a terrible drought in recent years and this was very evident in Tamworth where our city cousins experienced severe water restrictions, bare paddocks and dying town gardens. Bushfires were already burning across the North West to the coast with many road closures between the tablelands and the coast and ominous smoke haze cloaking the city. As the fires raged and steadily moved south igniting the outer Sydney regions, Blue Mountains, Southern Highlands, South Coast and the Snowies while extending into neighbouring Victoria and the ACT, it has been a summer of high alert and anxiety for all those living in or close to these enormous fire grounds. The loss of life and property has been tragic. RANSW and our national colleagues will be working throughout 2020 and beyond to ensure that artists and arts organisations are able to access funds to help them to re-establish their practices, make up for lost income, restore markets as well as playing a significant role in supporting the recovery process of these communities.

Through what has been a difficult year, I thank Julie Briggs, our Chair together with the RANSW board for its ongoing support and advice. The incredible work done in the regions by the RADOs and their leaders is remarkable and inspirational. It is our job to support them. I’d also like to give a huge vote of appreciation to Team RANSW and Team Artstate who work together either from the office in Sydney or a regional base to achieve our goals. Thank you all.

Elizabeth Rogers
Chief Executive Officer
Regional Arts NSW Advisory Council
14 Chairs of Regional Arts Development Organisations (RADOs) representing the ordinary members of the company
Meets once a year prior to the AGM
Elects 5 Directors depending on vacancies in the cycle from nominations submitted
Reviews the Company’s strategic directions

Regional Arts NSW Board of Directors
9 member board, meets 5 times per year
5 regional & 4 co-opted Directors
Directors appointed for 2 year terms with a maximum of 3 terms.
Appointment of Directors is based on their skills as contained in the Constitution

14 Regional Arts Development Organisations
Body corporate members of the Company (Regional Arts NSW Ltd)
Committees of management

Regional Arts NSW
Non-profit state peak body and service agency
Staff

14 Regional Arts Development Organisations
Non-profit regional arts and cultural development entities servicing a group of adjoining Local Government Areas (LGAs).
Executive Directors and Staff

RANSW Executive
3 members
Meet as required

Board of Directors
Julie Briggs, Chair
Paul Scott-Williams, Deputy Chair
David Dwyer, Treasurer
Patrick Healey (until 21 Sept)
Travis Holland
Bridget Guthrie
Sharni Jones
Sarah Parsons
Nicholas Pickard

Staff
Elizabeth Rogers  Chief Executive Officer
Patrick Healey  General Manager (from 14 October)
Lexie Reeves  Manager, Grants and Projects
Prudence Tan  Manager, Programs (p/t 4 days)
Dr Jane Kreis  Research and Development (until 30 June)
Linda Gao  Communications (contract 1 February – 14 June)
C7EVEN  Communications (contract from 1 July)
Company Prophets  Financial Management (Contract)
NETWORK SUPPORT

Meetings
Three network meetings were held on 23 – 24 Feb, 23-24 July and 26 – 27 November.
The February meeting was held at the Casula Powerhouse and was the first meeting held in Western Sydney since 2009. The July meeting was programmed at the Arts Exchange to follow the Artstate launch at the Australian Museum and included the Communications Officers and the EDs. The final network meeting 26 – 27 November was held at the Arts Exchange.

Annual Survey
RANSW conducted its annual survey of the RADOs in March 2019 for the year ended 30 December, 2018. This survey looks at the combined income sources and comparisons for the network illustrated in the graphs on page 6.
- Combined total investment in this state-wide program was up by 24.9% to $3,678,640 (increase of $734,430 from 2017) including the core funding from Create NSW of $1,964,00 (unchanged since 2013).
- Contributions from regional councils were up by 3.4% to $959,749 (an increase of $32,353 from 2017).
- Project funds increased by 25.93% to $2,165,555 (up $445,942).
- Other earned income increased by 86.18% to $553,336 (up $256,134).

Group insurance
Regional Arts NSW offers group insurance policies for its members (RADOs) and affiliated members (local arts organisations, LAOs) based anywhere in regional Australia. These group policies offer participants considerable savings on their insurance costs and a premium product.
- Broadform Liability or ‘Public Liability’ Insurance (RADOs and LAOs)
- Voluntary Workers Personal Accident Insurance (RADOs and LAOs)
- Association Liability Insurance (RADOs)
- Business Package (RADOs)
- Journey Insurance (RADOs)
- Motor Vehicle Insurance (RADOs)
- Cyber insurance (RADOs)
In 2019 there were 139 affiliate members.
In 2015 RANSW partnered with Artsure by Finsura to develop an insurance package tailored to insure the risks of individual artists who are not covered by the group insurance policies. The growing number of participants in this new policy is leading to a reduction in premiums. There are currently 157 active policies for individual artists and 263 individual policies for art groups.

Field trips
Field trips and regional travel are an integral support service for the RADOs and their staff. Trips are generally undertaken by the CEO and cover an itinerary developed by the Executive Director according to the needs of their RADO. Field trips leverage meetings with key personnel in local councils and other regional organisations, demonstrate that the RADO is part of a strategic state-wide program for delivering arts and cultural development, provides EDs with professional support to discuss in detail the issues facing their regions, enhances network relationships and reduces a sense of isolation, especially in areas where there are very few arts professionals. Field trips are scheduled where possible to coincide with RADO board meetings to support the ED, provide advice and to build relationships with the RANSW Advisory Council members. Other regional travel occurs on request to attend significant events, participate in forums, to attend board meetings and to sit on ED recruitment panels.

The CEO spent 60 days travelling in 2019. Eleven regions were visited in this period. As Artstate Tamworth was the major event of 2019, four trips were made to Tamworth and the Arts North West region for a total of 24 days including travel days scheduled around significant milestones including the local launch of Artstate, meetings with local stakeholders, production and site visits and the event itself. Ten other regions were visited during the period including Eastern Riverina Arts, Southern Tablelands Arts, South East Arts, Arts Northern Rivers, South West Arts, Western Riverina Arts, Out Back Arts, West Darling Arts and Arts OutWest.
The CEO travelled interstate to attend meetings in Canberra and Melbourne as well as travelling to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to attend the IFACCA World Summit on Culture in March.

Summary
- 21 trips
- 60 days on the road
- Visited 11 regions
- 22 regional towns visited (Tamworth and Wagga four times, Goulburn and Leeton twice)
- Attended 4 RADO board meetings (West Darling Arts, South East Arts, Arts OutWest and Arts North West), and met with other board members during regional travel.
- Drove around 40,000kms.
Metropolitan Arts Organisations Engagement

RANSW has developed ongoing relationships with a number of Sydney based arts organisations providing a significant conduit between metropolitan and regional organisations. Formal and informal meetings take place throughout the year including providing opportunities to present at regional network meetings, attendance at various networking functions and scheduled meetings to discuss specific agenda items.

In 2019 RANSW partnered with the Casula Powerhouse to hold the first Western Sydney meeting for the network in over a decade that included an excursion to the Campbelltown Arts Centre for an overview of their programs. RANSW also partnered with the Theatre Network NSW for the EDs to attend the State of the Sector Form at Belvoir St and with the MASS for its annual Regional Stakeholders Forum that includes a presentation by one to the network’s EDs. These partnership enable a two way exchange for is a regional presence in city events.

Artstate provides an excellent opportunity for metro-regional engagement. RANSW again partnered with the Australian Museum for support for the Sydney launch of Artstate Tamworth in October. Following on from their successful pre-event forum in Bathurst, Arts on Tour presented a salon in Tamworth that was complemented by a morning pre-event session presented by Critical Stages. A number of metropolitan and national organisations took up the opportunity to attend Artstate Tamworth and the Tamworth Regional Gallery partnered with the Art Gallery of NSW to curate Exploded Textiles demonstrating Tamworth’s long commitment to fibre art. This was the highest attendance at the gallery in 2019.

The CEO continues to sit on the Regional Conservatoriums Advisory Group hosted by Department of Education.

Country Arts Support Program

For the 2019 CASP funding round:

- 108 applications were received, requesting a total of $372,535
- 83 successful applications were funded —a total of $259,535
- Activities took place in 77 localities and 46 local government areas
- Approximately 208 artists were employed with CASP funds on a temporary or contract basis
- An estimated 3630 people actively participated in projects
- An estimated 28,456 people attended project outcomes such as performances or exhibitions
- Approximately $208,902 in cash contributions and $692,565 in ‘in-kind’ support was provided for projects
- Breakdown of all allocations and recommendations per region, 2019 Allocation pool: $250,000 Arts NSW allocation plus funds carried forward = $270,795.47

Regional Arts Fund (RAF)

Community Grants:

- 66 applications were received, requesting a total of $1,122,831.50
- 18 successful projects were funded —a total of $402,765.50
- Of the successful applications, 11 were funded under New Initiatives, 4 under Partnerships and 3 under Small Regional Festivals Support
- Performance and visual arts remain strong arts forms for NSW RAF applications, and many applications were cross-art form.

Quick Response grant program:

- 53 applications were received, requesting a total of $68,519.71
- 34 Successful projects were funded —a total of $43,027.03

For the combined Community and Quick Response Grants for 2019:

- Approximately 135 artists were employed with RAF funds on a temporary or contract basis
- An estimated 7,041 people actively participated in projects
- An estimated 197,110 people attended project outcomes such as performances or exhibitions
- Approximately $674,833 in cash contributions and $288,577 in ‘in-kind’ support for projects
The two day conference addressed the themes of On Country – In Country; respect for Country that deepens knowledge of arts, culture and regional practice and Arts in the Age of Uncertainty: how the Arts address the big issues of our day. In developing these themes we referred to the feedback and reports from Artstate Bathurst and thinking about the different strengths of each region in NSW. The accompanying arts festival featured a diverse program of performances, exhibitions and projections featuring the artists of the North West region. Artstate was presented in partnership with Arts North West with funding from Create NSW, Australia Council for the Arts, Tamworth Regional Council and Destination NSW. Local stakeholders contributing to the program included Tamworth Conservatorium, Tamworth Regional Gallery, Tamworth Entertainment Venues, University of New England, ABC New England North West and Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council.

196 delegates attended Artstate Tamworth 152 from regional NSW, 41 from Greater Sydney, one interstate and two international. The region was impacted by severe drought and bushfires at the time which impacted on final numbers. However, the continued high attendance from Sydney demonstrates the value of the event in bringing metropolitan and regional arts practitioners and administrators together to focus on the strength and quality of arts practice in regional NSW.

A separate report details this event.
Yaama – opening ceremony. Photo: Anthony Hand

The Hon Kevin Anderson MLA & The Hon Don Harwin MLC. Photo: Anthony Hand

Handover – Ceremonial Aboriginal exchange of gifts. Andy Choy-Porrenth. Photo: Anthony Hand

Yvonne Kent, Holly Taggart (Gamilaroi). Photo: Anthony Hand

David Una, Music on Country panel. Photo: Anthony Hand

Handkerchief – opening ceremony. Photo: Anthony Hand

The Hon Kevin Anderson MLA & The Hon Don Harwin MLC. Photo: Anthony Hand

Handover – Ceremonial Aboriginal exchange of gifts. Andy Choy-Porrenth. Photo: Anthony Hand

Yvonne Kent, Holly Taggart (Gamilaroi). Photo: Anthony Hand

David Una, Music on Country panel. Photo: Anthony Hand
Communications and Marketing

The Regional Arts NSW website regionalartsnsw.com.au continues to be the main platform for promoting, informing and communicating the work of the Regional Arts NSW Network. The website is updated on a regular basis with a mix of events, grants, news from regional and kindred organisations, personnel changes and employment opportunities. Case studies of CASP and RAF projects are prioritised and the website is used to broadcast many of the major projects of the RADOs.

- 45,981 visitors to the website (up 3.64%) and 63,419 website sessions.
- 4,250 contacts in the e-newsletter data base.
- 18 e-newsletters were distributed for core business.
- Twitter followers are 6,899 (up 1.97%).
- Instagram followers are 1,746 (up 26.25%).
- Facebook followers are 1,236 (up 55.67%).

Total RADO Reach
RANSW surveyed all the RADOs to determine the combined reach of the network. Figures at December 2019 were as follows:
- 15,458 E-newsletter subscribers.
- 29,961 Facebook followers.
- 13,924 Twitter followers.
- 17,011 Instagram followers.

Combined Network Reach (14 RADOs + RANSW)
- 19,708 E-newsletter subscribers.
- 31,707 Facebook followers.
- 20,823 Twitter followers.
- 18,775 Instagram followers.

Advocacy

Meetings and communication with members of parliament.
- Ongoing communications throughout the year with the office of the Hon. Don Harwin, MLC regarding Artstate. The Minister spoke at the Sydney launch of Artstate, the opening ceremony and the commencement of the Speakers Program.
- Meetings with the Hon Ben Franklin MLC in his role as the Parliamentary Secretary for the Arts. He also attended Artstate Tamworth and spoke at the Artstate Dinner on behalf of the Minister.
- Ongoing communication with the Hon Kevin Anderson MP who launched Artstate at the local launch in Tamworth, spoke at the Sydney launch and attended the event.
- Regional meetings were held with the Hon Adam Marshall MP in Armidale and Janelle Saffin MP in Lismore.
- RANSW lodged a submission to the Legislative Council’s Parliamentary Enquiry into Music Festivals in July.

Agency meetings

Create NSW

Create NSW underwent yet another restructure following the NSW state election in March. The agency was moved to the Dept of Premier and Cabinet to make up part of an ‘Engagement Cluster’. There were many changes of senior personnel as well as the implementation of a complete change to their grants process. These changes created a year of uncertainty within the arts sector, especially the small to medium sector and the regional arts network. Some of the devolved funding programs were eliminated for 2020, however CASP was not affected. A review of service organisations was announced at the end of 2019 and the process for multi-year funded service organisations and the network was unknown. RANSW responded to the draft Terms of Reference for the review.

- Create NSW staff continued to present to each of the network meetings and the RANSW Advisory Council meeting.
- RANSW responded to the Terms of Reference for the Service Organisations Review.
- RANSW submitted the Aboriginal Arts and Culture Officer Review and Policy Issue Paper to Create NSW 14 August.
- RANSW wrote to Create NSW (then) Executive Director on behalf of the network for an injection of funds due to the continued roll over of funding contracts (unsuccessful).
Department of Communications and the Arts (DoCA)
RANSW continued to meet with DoCA during the year regarding the RAF and the Aboriginal Grants programs (ILA and IVAIS). Following the Federal Election in May, a new Minister, Senator Paul Fletcher was appointed and the Arts was subsequently rolled into the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communication as of 1 February, 2020.

Regional Arts Australia (RAA)
RANSW continued to monitor the development and new leadership structure at RAA throughout the year to ensure that the organisation was operating within its financial constraints, providing national leadership and benefits to its members. The RANSW Chair, Julie Briggs continued to sit on the RAA board and report to each board meeting. RANSW renewed its membership in October and will continue to monitor the progress of RAA under its new leadership.

RAA continued to administer the RAF as a devolved fund and is negotiating the new deed to take effect 1 July 2020. The CEO continued to attend the RAA CEO meetings and the Creative Regions Summit in Canberra in November. The RAA Chair, Simon Spain, presented to the RANSW Board meeting in July.

This program is a major priority for RANSW although funding for Aboriginal Arts Officers (AAOs) embedded in the RADOs has almost dried up. Only two AAOs in the network are supported on triennial agreements through the IVAIS program and two further applications from the network in 2019 were unsuccessful. The rest of the AAOs currently in the network are part of project funding from a variety of sources.

Note that the term AAO is a generic term and does not reflect their individual titles.

After many changes and delays, RANSW finally contracted the Western Research Institute to undertake an Aboriginal Arts and Culture Officer Review and Policy Issues Paper to enable RANSW to advocate for a more equitable and sustainable funding model. This review was submitted to Create NSW in early August. This report will be used to develop a future policy for RANSW and was planned to feed into the new Create NSW Aboriginal Arts and Cultural Policy.

The AAO network met face to face at the Casula Powerhouse on 26 and 27 February, alongside the scheduled network meeting. They were given a program overview and tour of Casula Powerhouse before heading to Campbelltown Arts Centre for a similar event. Returning to Casula they met with the Create NSW team, Tammy Close, Tahjee Moar and Melodie Gibson; Marcus Hughes from the Indigenous Collections MASS; Ian RT Colless and Kevin De Preez, Manager Capacity at the Australia Council, were briefed on the Australia Council / NIACA Consultation by Lydia Miller & Joanne Brown and took part in a NAVA Consultation, Amala Groom, Wesley Shaw & Penelope Benton.

Eleven AAOs attended from Orana Arts, South East Arts, Arts OutWest, Murray Arts, West Darling Arts, Arts Northern Rivers, Out Back Arts and Saltwater Freshwater Arts Alliance from the Mid North Coast.

RANSW continues to grow the Aboriginal program at Artstate which this year featured Gamilaroi Country and was held in Tamworth. Speakers, presenters and performers took part in all aspects of the event including the opening ceremony, welcome to the delegates and the handover to the next host city.

Sharni Jones, RANSW Director, continues to provide advice and connections for RANSW and regional the network. Lexie Reeves, Manager Grants, continues to be responsible for coordinating the AAO network as part of her broader role.
**Board Matters**

The board met five times during the year to oversee the governance of the organisation. At the AGM on 10 April, 2019 Dr Travis Holland and Patrick Healey were elected to the Board by the members to replace Stephen Champion and Ben Roche who had completed their terms and Paul Scott-Williams was re-elected for his third term. Stephen and Ben were thanked for their 6 year commitment to RANSW and presented with a gift to commemorate their service.

At the Board meeting the following day, Julie Briggs was appointed Chair, Paul Scott-Williams, Deputy Chair and David Dwyer, Treasurer.

Additional appointments were Nicholas Pickard as Board representative on the RAF panel and Sharni Jones as Chair of the CASP panel. Julie Briggs agreed to continue represent RANSW on the RAA Board.

**Regional Arts NSW Public Fund**

The Public Fund was administered according to the regulations of the Register of Cultural Organisations. Julie Briggs, Travis Holland and Bridget Guthrie were appointed as Trustees of the Public Fund on 11 April, 2019.

**Audit**

The annual full year audit was undertaken in January by Stephen J Miller and Co. A further mid-year audit was undertaken in July, 2019 to acquit federal government grants.

**Funding Matters**

1—Create NSW

RANSW entered the fourth year of its current agreement with Create NSW for core operations including the administration of CASP. Note that this contract has been extended to 2020. RANSW received funding to undertake a research project investigating Aboriginal and Cultural Development in regional NSW. This report is was completed by the Western Research Institute and delivered to Create NSW in August, 2019.

The third iteration of the four year Artstate project was delivered in Tamworth 31 October – 3 November, 2019. As well as core funding from Create NSW RANSW was successful in obtaining additional project funding for Artstate Tamworth from Destination NSW Meet in NSW program, the Australia Council for the Arts and from Tamworth Regional Council.

2—Department of Communications and the Arts (DoCA) – Arts Division

It is administered by RAN through Smarty Grants. The RAF Grants (Community Grants and Quick Response) continued to be administered according to the guidelines. A new deed is being negotiated to take effect from 1 July, 2020.
This document contains highlights of activities undertaken by Regional Arts NSW in 2019. For the full Annual Report and audited financial statements visit www.regionalartsnsw.com.au

Regional Arts NSW is a member of Regional Arts Australia
Regional Arts NSW
Tel 02 9270 2500
Fax 02 9270 2525
admin@regionalartsnsw.com.au
Level 1, 10 Hickson Road
The Rocks Sydney NSW 2000
www.regionalartsnsw.com.au