

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND SCULPTURES

John McColl was commissioned to provide sculptural seating for Apollo Bay's new children's playground in 1998. Through support from Arts Victoria under its Regional Arts Fund, John teamed up with Brad West to transform local recycled cypress logs into fun, interactive artworks.

'The Family Couch', displays the carnivorous snail and parrot providing a seat to ride on either side; penguins, shark and turtle swim across the back; and a giant nautilus shell and snapper form a couch with seating for a large family.

'The Southern Right Whale' provides seating with a difference and 'The Carer's Seat' depicts a life size mother seal with two pups while 'The Mermaid Drinking Fountain' links to fishing folk law.



THE FAMILY COUCH by JOHN McCOLL & BRAD WEST

'The Carer's Seat' depicts a life size mother seal with two pups while 'The Mermaid Drinking Fountain' links to fishing folk law.



THE SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE by JOHN McCOLL & BRAD WEST



THE CARER'S SEAT by JOHN McCOLL & BRAD WEST

THE MERMAID DRINKING FOUNTAIN by JOHN McCOLL & BRAD WEST



ARTWORKS OF OUR FORESHORE

APOLLO BAY ARTS INC

The Apollo Bay Arts Council, formed 16 years ago, prides itself in promoting local artists and in providing the community with a range of entertainment throughout the year, including music, comedy, dance, drama & annual book-readings. The Arts Council also encompasses our local theatre group, who stage an annual performance in the local arts venue, the Mechanics Hall. Last year, the Arts Council published 'Warm Winter Words - A collection of writings from the Otways' including local contributors aging from 4 to 74 years. Books are available from the Newsagency. At the annual Apollo Bay Music Festival in March, the Arts Council contributes to 'Kids Under Canvas', a venue for children to experience and enjoy entertainment via performance and workshops, as well as coordinating the exhibition of local artists' work in the local venues.

The public arts project, 'Creative Village' has been a wonderful and evolving project providing a permanent exhibition of local artists' work. It has generated a huge amount of interest from tourists to the area and this flyer has been published in response to an obvious demand for information about the sculptures and about the talented local artists, responsible for their creation. We are most grateful to the Colac Otway Shire who funded the production of this flyer.

Support our Arts Council by purchasing a postcard of the poles from the Visitor Information Centre. As a non-profit group of volunteers, we gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Regional Arts Victoria (ex Victorian Arts Council) with whom we are affiliated.

For more information phone Secretary, Jane Gross on 03 52 37 6335.

This Arts Flyer was made possible by the generous support of two local photographers:

Kim Boyd
20 Turner Drive
Forrest 3236
Ph/Fax: 03 5236 6061

Deb Gair
Rising Tide Designs (Apollo Bay)
PO Box 295
Apollo Bay 3233
Ph: 03 5237 6545
Specialising in coastal photography



GRAPHIC DESIGN : ARTFARM DESIGN 03 521 6505

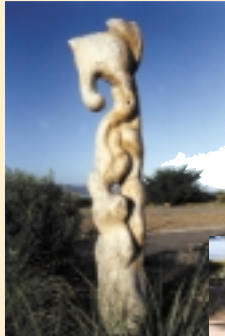
ARTWORKS OF OUR FORESHORE



The Apollo Bay Arts Council proudly presents this flyer as an explanation of the public arts projects that adorn Apollo Bay's foreshore, and an introduction to the many talented local artists that created these stunning works.

CREATIVE VILLAGE PROJECT

In 1994, the Victorian Arts Council (now named Regional Arts Victoria), with whom the Apollo Bay Arts Council is affiliated, offered the Creative Village Initiative to regional communities. Beginning in 1995, Apollo Bay was successful in the receipt of Creative Village funds along with financial support from the local Foreshore Committee of Management to target the foreshore Market site. Colac Adult and Community Education Inc was successful in their New Work Opportunities application for funds from DEET for the employment of 12 participants and a supervisor for the development of the foreshore. This included the Creative Village Project and meant that the team employed could carry out the landscaping works for the site, enabling a group of the participants to sculpt poles under the guidance of John McColl, also part of the team of 12. John guided artists and novices through the process of sculpting 14 poles, 5 of which he personally sculpted.



EMERGING FORM

JAMES BUTT

James Butt has worked as a professional artist since 1988 after completing his Bachelor of Arts in Sculpture at RMIT in Melbourne. He works in a diverse variety of mediums in sculpture, painting and drawing. James is inspired by natural history, figurative tribal art and music.



CYPRESS 'CASHEW' SEAT



MOSAIC SPIRAL DRINKING FOUNTAIN

Contact details:
James Butt
Phone: 03 5237 6611

MARK DAVIES

Mark Davies has lived in Apollo Bay for 25 years and has been creating furniture for 20 of them. Mark's hand-crafted outdoor furniture hewn from cypress is original, beautifully made and functional. His seats were selected as a commission by the Arts Council, were funded by the Colac Otway Shire and were installed in early 1996.



SEAT



THE BOAT SEAT



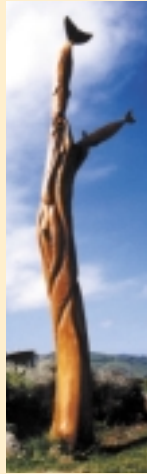
THE CONVERSATION SEAT

Contact details:
Mark Davies Davies Designs
Phone: 03 5237 6165

JOHN MCCOLL

John Gypsy McColl is a sculptor of distinction, creating classical, lyrical and evocative works in clay, wood, crystal and stone, which reflect the natural beauty of our world. John has been sculpting for the past twenty years and currently lives with his wife, Alizon and their five children in Skenes Creek. Inspired by the life and works of William Ricketts and Rodins, John aspires to establish an Artists Village incorporating a Sculpture Garden Sanctuary.

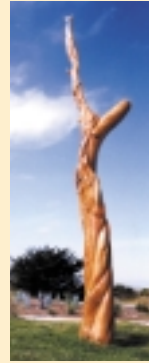
Contact details:
John Gypsy McColl
5 Bass Crescent
Skenes Creek, 3233
Phone: 03 5237 7622



HELPING HANDS



THE POSSUM POLE



HELPING HANDS 2



APOLLO

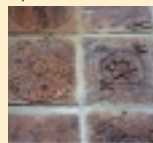
SEAL ISLAND SANCTUARY

John McColl's love of the ocean and seals was the inspiration for his winning design 'Seal Island Sanctuary'. The sculpture was commissioned by the Colac Otway Shire through the State Government Rural Community Development Scheme funding. Work began on the cypress monolith at the local tip as the log was too massive for Council equipment to budge. John engaged a studio assistant, wood carver, Brad West and after three months of dedicated work in an open air studio, the seals emerged. Installed amidst much media attention in August 1999, 'Seal Island Sanctuary' has been an interactive delight for visitors to Apollo Bay.

See front cover.



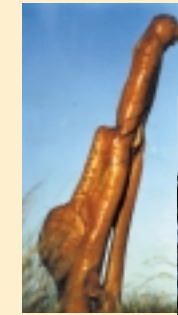
COMMUNITY TILING PROJECT



Colac Otway Shire's Community Support Funds in 1998 allowed the achievement of this project. Some two hundred and fifty kilogram of terracotta was rolled and cut into several hundred square tiles as well as larger slabs for relief work. A series of community workshops were conducted over 3 days under the guidance of artist, John McColl. In addition, green tiles were taken to the weekly activities group at Otway Health & Community Services to enable the older members of the community to carve or decorate a tile. The tiles were fired in the local school's kiln and John arranged the tiles incorporating his sperm whales and the mermaid to form an interesting, practical surface preventing erosion at the base of the well-used 'Boat Seat'.



THE PEOPLE POLE



SNAIL POLE



LIZARD'S REVENGE

BRAD WEST

Brad is a self-taught sculptor who has created a large body of public and private works.

Experienced in working with community groups and schools, he has carved interactive seating, totem poles and free-standing sculpture. Currently, Brad is working on several public artwork commissions in the area from Forrest to Warrnambool.

Contact details:
Brad West Wood Creations
20 Turner Drive
Forrest 3236
Ph/Fax: 03 5236 6061

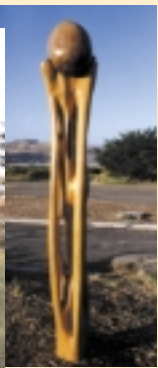
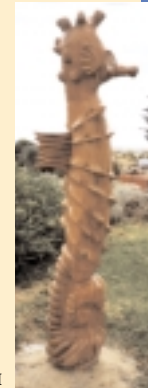
www.woodcreations.tourvic.com.au

KIM BOYD

Kim studied Fine Art in Melbourne for many years before moving to Apollo Bay in the early 90's. Now a resident in nearby Forrest, she continues working in various mediums alongside partner and fellow artist, Brad West, dividing her time between raising their daughter and her artwork and photography.

Contact details:
Kim Boyd
20 Turner Drive
Forrest 3236
Ph/Fax: 03 5236 6061

SEAHORSE II



DINOSAUR EGG WITH BONES



STEVE WILKIE

Steve Wilkie's works include photography, wood carving and furniture, oil painting and music. When working with wood, he attempts to reveal and enhance the natural movement and character within each piece.

THE HARBOUR WATCHER

Contact details:
Steve Wilkie
Phone: 03 52 37 6865

ASSORTED ARTISTS

- From left:
• NODDY'S NILE by MICHAEL WALTERS
• TE POU by TANZALEE CHALMERS
• FISH by MICHAEL FINN

