

Life in the Hunter & Coastal regions of New South Wales

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Hunter & Coastal LIFESTYLE

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on the farm
in Dungog

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in the Hunter



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Sculpture on the farm

Local art finds success out in the great outdoors

Story: Penny Evans, Photography: David Oliver (winners) and Janie Stevenson (sculptures)

One hundred sculptures in the picturesque paddocks, gardens and galleries at Fosterton. One great new event on the bursting Dungog district social calendar. One extraordinary addition to the community's cultural collection. This is what the inaugural Sculpture on the Farm promised, yet it delivered so much more.

Philippa Graham, Fosterton owner and chair of the not for profit Sculpture on the Farm Inc says, "I had always dreamed about hosting a sculpture exhibition in the Dungog Shire, but Sculpture on the Farm exceeded all our hopes and we are just so uplifted by the whole experience." According to Philippa it was an incredible community effort and people came together from all over the shire to help. "We are so grateful and have been absolutely overwhelmed by the response from the visitors and the artists."

51 artists contributed 100 works of different sizes, scales and styles, showcasing the best of Australian sculpture. The works

were beautifully displayed around the property; in the paddocks, by the dam, around the homestead gardens and even in the machinery shed. Not your regular gallery exhibition by any means, but a truly spectacular drawcard overlooking the Williams River, that saw 2,200 visitors pour through the gates over the October Long Weekend.

Coinciding with the Dungog Festival, Sculpture on the Farm opened with a gala presentation on the Friday evening, where the winners were announced to a crowd of over 200 people. "The idea was to select one work to be retained in Dungog, as a gift to the community from the Sculpture on the Farm committee," enthuses Philippa.

The \$10,000 Acquisitive Prize was unanimously selected by the three judges and awarded to Braddon Snape's *Nothin' but Sky*. The structurally striking piece will soon be installed in a public location in Dungog, to be enjoyed by locals and visitors to the town alike. "This was a standout piece, in an exhibition that attracted some really

significant artists and we are just overjoyed it will be staying here in Dungog for everyone to appreciate," says Philippa.

The Norco Rural Prize for a local Dungog Shire Sculptor was won by Natalie Duncan for her work *Arinna*. And the People's Choice went to Felicity Cavanough with *Frolic*.

"This event was such a celebration of our community and our beautiful rural lifestyle, as well as the arts and culture of our area," says Philippa enthusiastically. She hopes it's just the beginning and that one day they'll be able to gift sculptures to all the local villages and towns in the shire. Watch this space!

While many of the works were quickly snapped up by art fans, some are still available to purchase - the catalogue is available online via www.sculptureonthefarm.com.

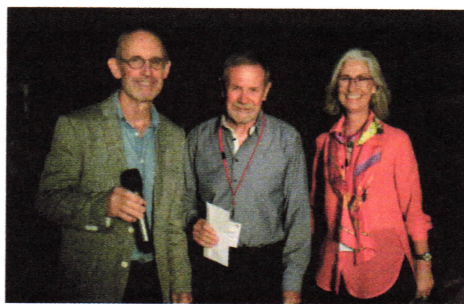
Philippa wanted to thank the event's "tireless" committee Liz Jones, Philippa Wilson, Lisa Connors and her husband John Graham and the many committed helpers including Ted Nobbs, who assisted in curating the exhibition. ▷



"Nothin' but Sky" by Braddon Snape



"Inside the mirror" by Peter Tilley



Sculptor Paul Selwood, RUPIO Prize for Metallurgical Excellence winner Peter Tilley, Philippa's sister Michele Myers. Their father, Sir Rupert Myers, donated this prize.



Brigette Uren, Director Maitland Regional Art Gallery, Acquisitive Prize winner Braddon Snape, Philippa Graham, Paul Selwood, John Graham.



"Moulds" by Carolyn Rendle



"Frolic" by Felicity Cavanough



Brigette Uren, Brett Lewis, CEO The Bloomfield Group, winner Artistic Excellence Prize Carolyn Rendle.



Brigette Uren, Paul Selwood, Norco Prize winner Natalie Duncan, Coralie Nichols, General Manager Dungog Shire Council.



◀ "Trust" by Philippa Graham



"Arinna" by Natalie Duncan

Prize winners

2018 Sculpture on the Farm Acquisitive Prize
\$10,000 won by *Braddon Snape* with
Nothin' but Sky

2018 RUPIO Prize for Metallurgical Excellence
\$1,000 won by *Peter Tilley* with
Inside the Mirror

2018 Bloomfield Group Prize for Artistic Excellence
\$500 won by *Carolyn Rendle* with ***Moulds***

2018 Sculpture on the Farm People's Choice Award
\$500 won by *Felicity Cavanough* with
Frolic

The Sculptors Society Prize for an Indoor Work
\$300 won by *Philippa Graham* with
Trust

The Norco Prize for Dungog Shire Sculptor voucher \$200 - won by *Natalie Duncan* with
Arinna