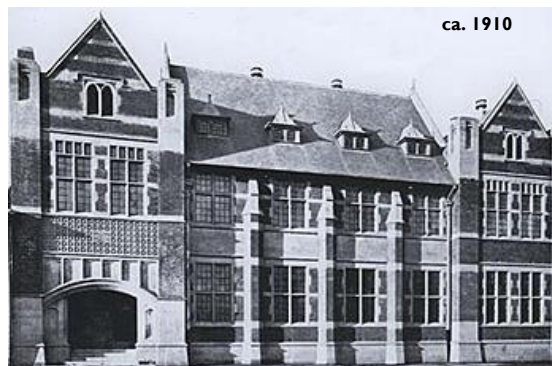


Bulletin # 36 – 30th March 2017

Visit of Maitland Regional Art Gallery

hosted by RC of Maitland Sunrise



Margaret Sivyer gave us an interesting talk of the historical background of MRAG and the extensive involvement of Cecily (Peg) Mitchell (1912-1969), Rob Mitchell's mother, in the establishment of Grossman House Committee.

The MRAG building's history dates back to 1830 and has been used as tailors, candle, soap, buggy factory and bulk warehouse until 1892 it became a Technical College for 75 years. The 1955 flood destroyed most College records and museum and a flood marker is still displayed in the entrance.

In 1986 the Tech. College moved to Metford and the building was sold to a private owner until in 2002 it was acquired by Maitland City Council as the home of MRAG.

In 2008 significant renovations & extensions were done with an 'infill' building that links the two older. Opened on 15th August 2009 by artist Margaret Olley.

It comprises a café, shop, five major exhibition spaces & six smaller areas.



Moving House by Susan & Peter O'Doherty

Margaret Sivyer, Rob Mitchell with Brigitte Uren the Cultural Director of MRAG.

Brigitte's Rotary background was as 1996 Rotary Exchange student in Graz/Austria which was the catalyst to get her interested in arts instead of her initial plan for child care.

In this Bulletin:

Pg 2: MRAG visit cont.

Pg 3: Dinner at Brough House, Bart's last move, coming events

Congratulations

Birthdays:

James Booth 31st March

Ian Brigden 2nd April

Anniversaries:

Bill & Mary Michel

Member Duties next meeting 6th April 2017

Door:

D.Bairstow, C.Bartlett

Meet/Greet

J.Booth/I.Brigdon

Loyal Toast

N.Costello

Grace

D.Craike

Intro Guest speaker

J.Cropley

Thank Guest Speaker

G.Diemar

Bulletin

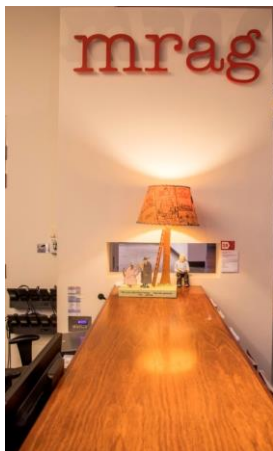
Henk Tobbe

Photos by Henk Tobbe

See complete album by click on link

[Maitland visit](#)

Apologies/Extras to John Crump, latest by noon on Wednesday!
by Phone or Text 0401 450 239



Reception desk



Shop



Cafeteria



Linking old & new building



Maitland Int. Salon of Photography Exhibition (work in progress)



Some of the artefacts on show



Interactive & multi-sensory artwork to engage people with disability

During the guided tour by Kate Bugeja and Brigitte we were shown the inner sanctuaries, (behind the scene) of the gallery normally not open to the public, the Collection Store with approx. 4500 artworks most stored in map drawers. The only not renovated area, formerly known as the 'white collar' training room of the Tech. College

Unfortunately the store is not air-conditioned does not comply to environmental conditions stipulated by the State & Nat. Galleries & Museums of 55% Humidity and 22° +/-1° and can only be worked in in between seasons.

We saw rare works such as:

'Bedroom Still Life' of Margaret Olley a patron of the gallery, her lovely quote was "Make Giving Contagious".

Iris Darcy, sister in law of local boxer legend Les Darcy donated various memorabilia, such as a 18ct. gold ingot from E. McGooty to his KO loss to Darcy, inscribed with "From One Brick To Another"



Bedroom Still Life by Margaret Olley (1923 – 2011)



Dinner at the Grossman & Brough House

Hosted by Friends of Grossman House Committee

The Grossman & Brough House are identical mirror reversed built in 1870 and now owned by National Trust.

From 1892-1963 it housed Maitland Girls' High School. Due to efforts of Cecily Mitchell it became the initial art gallery of Maitland.

The dinner was set in the Cecily Mitchell Room that is decorated with her art works. Floral paintings donned the walls.

In 1962 she was commissioned to design and paint the Maitland coat of arms (see picture) 'Iustitia et Fortitudo Invincibilia Sunt' (Justice and Fortitude are Invincible).

Cecily Mitchell was also a book author and penned the book 'Hunter's River' (available from Bob Mitchell) a great Maitland history read.

Bob was also the president of the Gallery Society started and held meetings in this room.

The ladies of the Friends of Grossman House Committee (most of them Rotarians) presented us with a marvellous home cooked dinner.

Margaret Sivy and Helen Scott (President Friends of Grossman House) acknowledged the contribution Cecily Mitchell made to the arts scene in Maitland and in particular to the Grossman & Brough House.

An excellent and informative evening, thanks go to: Margaret Sivy, Brigitte Uren & her team, Helen Scott & the ladies from Friends of Grossmann House and RC Maitland



Rotarians at work, vacating late Bart Richardson's Harbourside Haven unit furniture and wine cellar, fully stocked by Bart's winnings of Heads 'n Tails

Date	Who	Topic or Event
6 th April	Sean Mahoney	Local Chiropractor
13 th April	Hat Day	Barefoot Bowling & BBQ at NBBC
20 th April	Judy Hicks	Interplast
27 th April	Kurt Purkiss	Superannuation