

# MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: THURSDAY 24 MAY 2012

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

---



## New exhibition features staff creations

UTAS staff members have revealed their tastes, talents and more than a little personal information through an art exhibition to open on Friday, May 25, at the UTAS Newnham Campus NEW Gallery.

The exhibition, entitled *Other Matters*, has been co-ordinated by a staff member, Student Centre (Support) councillor Cheryl Jones, who said that the idea came about when a colleague leaving her department was gifted a piece of artwork by a fellow workmate and a discussion started about the hidden artistic talents of UTAS staff.

“We wondered what it would be like to bring everyone together with art as a common interest,” she said.

“NEW Gallery director Malcolm Bywaters was quick to give his support and with one invitational email we had more than 30 willing participants.”

Mrs Jones said she’s confident that visitors will be thrilled with the quality and variety of artwork and that the artists’ work colleagues and students will be surprised to see what they get up to in their spare time.

“It’s fascinating to see if expectations of what you think a person would create fits in with their personality or your perception of that person,” she said.

“Almost every department of the university is represented – from security to Education to Architecture.”

Mr Bywaters said that the *Other Matters* exhibition was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the many hidden creative talents of UTAS staff away from the work place.

“The display includes paintings, sculpture, needlework, textiles, photography, wood carving, photography and more – it’s hard to believe the mix of talent on the Newnham and Inveresk campuses,” he said.

Among the impressive collection is:

*The Bird Trap* – A wood carving by Bill Stackhouse from Human Resources, which has a myrtle board base and Huon pine oystercatcher bird with eggs made from king billy pine. He has also displayed a Tebrakunna Totem, made from king billy pine and huon pine, etched with Tasmanian iconic animals.

*Morning Time* – A white cotton wall hanging airbrushed with dye over floral stencils which was made by Cheryl Jones while on holiday in the Cook Islands last year.

*Are You Looking At Me?* – Self-portrait (part of a series of three) by Bill Baker, Arts and social education lecturer and music education specialist with the School of Education. He has used acrylic paint and mixed media and challenges the viewer to contemplate what is happening to the subject and how is he feeling.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Regional Development) Professor Janelle Allison will officially open the exhibition on Thursday, June 7, however the general public can view the art from this Friday, May 25 until Friday, June 22.

### ***OTHER MATTERS***

**Open to the public:** Friday, May 25 until Friday, June 22.

**NEW Gallery, Newnham UTAS campus, hours:** Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.  
Free Admission.

**Official opening:** Thursday, June 7, 5pm-6.30pm by Prof Janelle Allison, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Regional Development) and Director of the Institute for Regional Development, University of Tasmania.

**Exhibitors:** UTAS staff members Andrew Allan, Bill Baker, Robert Boldkald, Malcom Bywaters, Mat Carey, Susannah Coleman-Brown, Bruce Dolbey, Ann Edwards, Sarah-Jane Fox, Darren Grattidge, Lauren Houston, Latha Jeyaraj, Cheryl Jones, Karlin Love, Jeremy Morante, Lesly Osneiks, Tina Pinkard, Heidi Robnick, Allan Salter, Megan Short, David Shorter, Bill Stackhouse, Shane Talbot, Jill Wilkinson, Bridgitte Wolfe.

#### **Information Released by:**

**The Media Office, University of Tasmania**

**Phone: Lana Best (03) 6324 5019; Mob. 0417 978 025**

**Email: Lana.Best@utas.edu.au**