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artwork

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The Community Arts Network of SA is a member based organisation. It forms part of a national network of sister organisations in most capital cities across Australia.

AIM

The Community Arts Network aims to support arts development and creative expression at community level towards the ideal of diverse and vibrant community cultures.

COMMUNITY ARTS

Arts practice and creative expression are at the heart of a community's vitality. People have always come together to sing, tell stories, enact rituals, to celebrate, to mourn and to mark significant events in their lives. Besides being able to see great art, people need to actively participate in these activities. This is what is meant by the term community arts, it might be a new name but it is not a new idea.

LOCAL CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

It is through the things we do together as groups and communities that we gain a sense of collective identity, a sense of place and a sense of belonging. When we value these things a positive concern for our social well being follows and we begin to take charge of our present and shape the future to meet our aspirations.

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Cover: Rock paintings by Nyungar students from Hamilton Hill High School. Community artist, Ron Gidgup. Photo: Ben Alpers. See article page 24.

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COASTWISE



Patawalonga Basin and neighbouring coastal region. Model created by the Coastwise Project SA Arts Team: Maggie Savage, Alison Radford and Gay Canning.

PAT RIX

... definitely not for stick in the muds! Pat Rix explores an interdisciplinary approach to cleaning up an urban coastal waterway.



In 1995 the SA Coastwise project, the third such in Australia, brought together the South Australian branch of the Australian Conservation Foundation, students from the Mawson Graduate Centre for Environmental Studies at the University of Adelaide, community action groups and a visual artist. They all became involved in an attempt to find a satisfactory environmental and community solution to what has been called the most polluted waterway in Australia, the Patawalonga.

Coastwise, now into its second year, is a national joint initiative focusing on environmental planning in rural and urban coastal areas. The bodies involved are the Australia Council, the Australian Heritage Commission and the Australian Conservation Foundation. A unique feature is the involvement of university students in the collaborative process.

Kathie Muir from the University of Adelaide engaged Adelaide-based visual artist Maggie Savage for her expertise in bringing art into political and social issues, and into environmental design. As