

The OpenArts News

December 2018

**Hello all Members and a very happy
Christmas and New Year
To you all!**

**Just a summary of the year gone and the year ahead!
(It was supposed to be brief and a bit shorter but appears not!)**

The 2018 Art year is drawing to a close, and our last Art Function has been held!

The Fair numbers at the end of November had our supporters battling the elements to bring people out into Mac Bay and visit not only us – but also the other Peninsula attractions which go hand in hand with our Fair. – But then there was also the Black Friday Sales, and maybe the thought of the road works! And, yes, the weather was definitely not kind. Maybe even the fact of our lovely Mac Bay Café not being open? There could be many reasons, and a combination of them all, why numbers were down this year!?

We, of course, cannot ‘control external matters’!

So - yes - it was a quieter Fair than usual. It was still a very happy and fun weekend with not just the public enjoying our works and the music, but the Stall holders enjoying the chance to chat to each other.

So the weather was against us – the Black Friday sales may have been against us the Cafe being closed and nobody coming to the beach may have been against us getting the usual numbers – but we still had well over 400 people visit and enjoy their day.

And – sales from the stalls, were, considering all the above, pretty good! In fact – just through eftpos alone – we took \$9290-43, which is far higher than last year – or the year before. So on top of this those who received direct payment – considering numbers weather etc – and yes - compared to the last three years - which were quite a bit higher in numbers, we did exceptionally well!

No, of course, some did better than others. That is always the way! Even on my own personal level I know the last two were far better for me. But

we enjoy the days, and yes – the hope we will do at least enough to cover 'costs'! (Just managed that at least!)

So with the year drawing rapidly to an end – in fact far TOO rapidly - overall 2018 was a very happy and successful 'exhibiting' year! 'Almost an Island' was possibly our best ever, with high visitor numbers and excellent sales. June – our Winter-themed exhibition - battled poor weather again, but had excellent visitor numbers and our best sales yet – with double the year before! And we have already mentioned the Fair.

Now we look forward to the New Year 2019 and our events!

First our MOST important - 'Almost an Island' – Opening Night Thursday 11th April - Open to the Public from 12th – 22nd again in Macandrew Bay Hall.

Then next - our Themed exhibition – Opening night Thursday May 30th – Opening to the public From Friday 31st to June 9th. What will be the challenge this year?

Also - there is a possibility that we may join in the Heritage celebrations again in October – through Labour weekend. This will be decided at a later time!

Then it's back to the Fair at the end of November – or maybe next year, early December?

Last bit -- During the Fair this year we held a survey – the results of which were really quite interesting! 26 forms were handed out – 23 handed them back.

The questions and answers!

Did you enjoy being at this year's Fair? Yes – 23 --- No – 0

Do you think it is a worthwhile event and part of our Art Calendar? Yes – 23 ----- No – 0

Did you enjoy the Music? Yes – 21 – No – 1 (One thought it a little loud.)

**Will you take a stall again next year? Yes – 21 No – 0
Maybe – 2.**

Which opening hours would you prefer?

10 – 5? 10

11 - 5 1

10 – 4 10

11 - 4 Two maybes?

**Do you think the Fair is worth carrying on as one of
OpenArts Annual events? Yes - 23**

**Would you be interested – ‘down the track’ - in being part of
an Art Cooperative in Portobello? (This would not be an
OpenArts cooperative) Yes - 12 No – 7**

**A few wanted further information. Which of course would
depend on the way it was to be organised?**

**Do you think OpenArts could – or should - extend their
exhibition calendar to include, at least, one or two more
exhibitions? Worth considering Yes - 18**

No - 5

**We intend to send out another survey to all members in the
new year with similar questions with a few more added.
So perhaps you would like to consider how YOU see
OpenArts, its future, its development and its growth in the
Art of the Peninsula and the wider Dunedin Art community.**

**Thank you for your patience with this ‘short’ (not)
newsletter!**

**Have a great Christmas and a wonderfully Happy New
Year!**

**Whoops! - Sorry – two more tiny things – our Web site is
going well BUT it needs more of YOU!**

**And – our new Facebook is gathering momentum and
getting lots of likes and interest! You can post on it.**

Cheers and best wishes to you all!

Roger - and the OpenArts Committee!