

Secondary entry #16: Callaghan College Wallsend



The Wallsend Eagle



Leith Hamilton's contemporary artwork. *Picture: Facebook*

Artistic talent emerges in Hunter's heart

By BAILEY CHAPMAN and JACOB FINDLAY

CONTEMPORARY artists have been hard at work in the Newcastle region for the past decade and in the last five years many of them have received state-wide recognition.

One such artist is Leith Hamilton, a Dudley resident. Mr Hamilton commented on the wide variety of art being produced by Novocastrians: "There is a large and diverse array of amazing artistic talent emerging from Newcastle at the moment through not only 2D, 3D and computer art but textile, music, drama and literature."

Mr Hamilton said that community events and initiatives have given local artists the opportunity to flourish by providing access for art makers to create and present their work to the public through avenues such as the Renew Newcastle initiative, monthly markets and exhibitions and showcases for emerging artists.

Mr Hamilton has displayed his work at the Cooks Hill Art Gallery and recently won the 'Art Factor' award as part of the emerging artist exhibition, *We Get By*. He describes his art as "a cross between graffiti art and illustration with a surrealistic feel that reflects the internal dialogue of the subject ... this is mixed with pop culture imagery or objects that have a nostalgic value to me personally."

Layers of meaning and imagery in his works draws you in to analyse, interpret and find symbols that may have been missed at first glance.

By ANGUS SCHIEB, THOMAS SHARKEY, AIDON STORRIE and BENJAMIN ZOK

CALLAGHAN College Wallsend Campus Under 15s Rugby League Team has recently had a large amount of sporting success which included taking out the prestigious Knights Knockout 2014 competition. The Wildcats were victorious over St Joseph's High School at Lochinvar whom they defeated 38-6 on July 14.

The team captain, James Thorley, put in an outstanding performance which resulted in him taking out the coach's award for his superb captaincy role and for being a great overall player.

Ali Taufaa, the team's fullback, also put in a spectacular performance and was recognised for his efforts.

Coach Andrew Johnson gave an insight into the team and individual players. "The team could not have performed any better on the day. We improved significantly from previous games in the areas of discipline, strength and teamwork, which was encouraging to see."

When asked about the prospect of a future in the NRL for any of these players, he said: "They're very young however, if they work hard at their game opportunities may come up for them. Hopefully I



The victorious Wallsend Campus Wildcats after the Knights Knockout 2014 competition.

can say one day that I coached that kid playing in the NRL."

When choosing the team, Mr Johnson looks for discipline, players who play as part of a team and individuals who will listen and employ feedback constructively.

Captain James Thorley and Toa Matoka said that being part of a team and preparing mentally for the games are their favourite aspects of footy. James also said his favourite moment of the match was the first try scored by front-rower

Tom Baldwin and the positive effect it had on the team mentally.

All players and the coach agreed the team's victory in the Knights Knockout 2014 Competition was a great moment and a fantastic reward at the end of the season.



The Knitting Club is helping women in need.

Picture: Yasmin Khan

Group is knitting for a good cause

By ISABELLA HALES-GIACOMEL and YASMIN KHAN

STAFF and students at Callaghan College Wallsend Campus are involved in a community-based initiative known as Knitting Club.

Four staff members, 15 students and several community members take up their knitting needles every Tuesday at lunchtime in the

school's EEE Centre. Wool, needles, thread and other supplies are donated by teachers, students, parents and members of the public.

Kristy Higgins, founder and administrator of the club said that giving something back to the community is a wonderful opportunity. "Every night thousands of people sleep on the streets or in homeless shelters, often without bedding. This is where the knit-

ting club helps; every 24 squares of knitting are sewn together to make a blanket that keeps someone in a shelter warm for the night."

The club will also be making teddy bears for the John Hunter Children's Ward later in the year.

"The club's top priority is to help the community by giving a small amount of comfort to those who need it most," said Ms Higgins.



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