

Drawing workshop proves a huge success

ANNE WILKINSON

Mission Beach's brilliant Barking Ceiling Dogs Nursery and Gallery proved an inspirational setting for a special drawing workshop held over the weekend.

Organised by Pru Kraushaar, and conducted by well known artist and adjunct Associate Professor in Visual Arts at James Cook University Anneke Silver, the workshop was aimed at both beginners and advanced artists.

"Drawing to me is the very basis of art, and learning to look has always seemed the basis of drawing," Pru said.

"To me drawing is all-important.

"There is so much I felt I wanted to learn so I contacted Flying Arts about workshops and they suggested I organise one here in at the Beach.

"I'm absolutely delighted they were able to give us such a brilliant teacher."

Proving the often-denied truth that everyone can draw if they really want to, several participants who were completely new to drawing produced exciting works, all in tones from black to sparkling white.

Media for the workshop were char-

coal, conte, soft pencil and in the second afternoon, Chinese brush and ink.

"After the first morning of basic instruction, the students concentrated on subjects they had brought along, or borrowed items from the nursery. Everyone agreed there were plenty of excellent results to take home and frame."

Ms Silver is an internationally known artist with more than 20 solo exhibitions to her credit plus many residencies here and abroad. She brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the workshop.

Her specialist teaching areas are painting, drawing and art history and delightfully, her great love and enthusiasm for teaching the liberating but too often ignored craft of drawing rapidly dispelled any nervousness the students might have had.

"So much was packed into the workshop, and it was wonderfully renewing," one of the more experienced artists said.

"You forget so much because living is so complicated, and it was like being back in art school, in a friendly group and a wonderful setting."

Pru Kraushaar hopes more workshops can be held.



HAPPY DISCOVERY: Talented craftsperson but newcomer to art Ros Barker discovers she can draw at a special workshop conducted by Anneke Silver.