



MOUNT BARKER
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Media Release

6 September 2022

Terrestrial Satellites – Community Arts Project

Using photography, video, and both satellite and physical mapping systems, a group of Mt Barker residents have put together a unique art project that celebrates the community and local environment.

Terrestrial Satellites is a community arts photography project that has been facilitated by renowned local photographer, Sam Oster over a 12 month period.

In 2021, Mt Barker Council engaged Ms Oster to run the project and residents were invited to participate which included attending workshops to learn new photography skills using mobile phones and cameras.

“The group have created some amazing photographs by exploring their local environment and learning skills that have encouraged them to experiment and be creative”, Ms Oster said.

A dedicated group of 8 participants joined the project and during Covid lockdowns and restrictions used Facebook to share their photographs, ideas, and chat with each other. Ms Oster also offered advice and tuition on this platform.

“A highlight for me was supporting and mentoring a group of people through covid and this was possible through Facebook and online workshops, Ms Oster said

“It was great that they had something to distract them fortnightly with technical challenges and creative exploration using their own backyard.”

One of the participants, Kristy Margetts said that she was really nervous about joining the project, but had learnt so much.

“Sam has taught me so much and inspired me to explore photography in so many ways! Ms Margetts said.

“I’m very grateful for the opportunity provided by Mount Barker Council and Sam. I haven’t really stopped taking photos since and am also enjoying continuing to learn as much as I can through an iPhone photo academy and editing course. I’m hooked!”

An event to launch and celebrate the achievements of the project will be held along Stephen Street on Thursday September 15 from 5.30pm with participant's photographs being projected onto the Town Hall wall.

Following the launch, a slideshow of photographs will be on display on the big screen at the Mount Barker Community Library and an exhibition will be held at the Hahndorf Academy until 16 October.

Sam Oster is available for interview and can be contacted on 0414 939 768.

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