



Artists Camp at “Merino Downs”

Near Aramac “on the edge of the Outback”

5 – 12 May 2011

After ten years of dreaming and two years of waiting, our little station-hand’s huts were moved, making share accommodation for eight people.

Artists are invited to stay at “Merino Downs” for the second Artists’ Camp, during the Harry Redford Cattle Drive to share some of the activities associated with the drive.

Paint some of the different landscapes, gain an appreciation of the history of the area, have contact with other artists, or just have some time out.

The camp will be for beginning to advanced artists; there will be no formal tutor, artists will be free to gain inspiration from the landscape and each other. Most of each day will be spent painting in the open air, with an informal display and talk about the day’s work in a non-judgmental atmosphere at the end of the day.

Evenings will be a time to relax around the campfire and talk about the next day and paintings we have done. Traditional station fare will be served.

Proposed Itinerary, subject to change to fit in with the HR cattle Drive:

- Thursday 5: Arrive at Merino Downs
Friday 6: Painting on the creek
Saturday 7: Painting at The Lake, and in the evening share in the Desert Rats’ welcome to the riders on the “Cattle Drive”.
Sunday 8: Painting from the high country in Belltopper Paddock
Monday 9: Paint, and/or make tin lampshades, in the shearing shed at MD
Tuesday 10: Paint the natural open downs country at MD
Wednesday 11: Tom Lockie’s Artesian Country Tour to see historical sites east of Aramac and the Gracevale aboriginal paintings. This has been chosen as one of the 150 must do things in Queensland. From Aramac it is \$145 for a 9 to 5 day with Tom’s legendary running commentary and lunch and two smokos provided. You will need to organise that yourself. T: 46 512 211 F: 46 512 499
E: artesian_country_tours@hotmail.com
Thursday 12: Depart in the morning.

COST: \$600 incl GST includes accommodation, three meals and two smokos for the five days. There will be an amount of driving. You will need to bring your own art materials, swag (pillow, sheets, blankets and doona) bath-towel, torch, any alcoholic drinks, and (optional) a CD of your artwork to share.

Provision of a complete swag and towel for you will be an extra \$100.

To get to Aramac there is a bus to Barcaldine; plane or train to Barcaldine; or around 12 hours drive from Toowoomba. Merino Downs is 18k from Aramac, with only 8k of dirt road. Next G mobile phones work nearly all over MD. Fuel is available in Aramac during working hours.

For **registration form** email: Lesley Cowper at al_cowper@bigpond.com
Mobile 0428 513 246

For additional information on the area: www.harryredford.com.au
www.barcaldinerc.qld.gov.au



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