

art school





art school



Julie Moore loaned me her camera and expertise and I photographed my Sea Sculptures. I remember looking through the viewfinder and realising that this is what I wanted to do. From that moment I was a photographer. I could still make things but only to photograph. 1975.

Allan Chawner 2017



## art school

I was lucky! I got the NEAT scheme from Gough Whitlam and was able to go back to art school. I completed second year while commuting from Taree. Then in January 1976, Birgitte, Simon and I moved to Carrington. Birgitte started in 3rd year as she had credit for her two years in art school in Sydney as did I for my one year, so we were both in third year. Simon was 6 that year and he spent a lot of time with us at art school.

I started photography early in 1975. I bought the makings of a dark room and installed it in the house at Pampoolah. Ron Morrison was very supportive and I spent a lot of time in his office along with Alf Scott and Dave Hawke. I became focused on photography and incorporated it into most of my studies. I thought, initially, that I would major in sculpture and made numerous large works but eventually I was making them so that I could photograph.

I became president of the Art Students' Union. That took a lot of my time. I photographed while I ran meetings and while I attended staff meetings. I photographed while I worked. Every roll of film was another experiment. So if my photograph was in focus, it probably was overdeveloped and in infrared.

In 1976, Malcolm Frazer got into office and he cut the NEAT scheme funding in half and things got a little tough. I bought old cameras and fixed them up. I found suppliers of chemistry and materials that I could buy in bulk. It was a very poor but innovative period.

Photographing people candidly was what I enjoyed the most. I photographed without thinking of consequence. It was a great time and I reveled in photography.

This is my story of the art school and not a history of it. The experience was life changing. And was filled with great people. I have forgotten the names of so many people in these photographs. I never expected to be looking back in 40 years.

These photographs are part of my black and white collection from this time. This is an incomplete history.



Hunter Street TAFE. 1975. Early one morning.



Sculpture workshop . Simon and I in pose with Viva the dog invisible in the long exposure and my sculpture called "Ironic tree". A good reason to not be a sculptor. I made it at home and had to cut it in half as it was too big to get through the door. This is a double exposure by design or accident. I had film from bulk rolls and sometimes I did not mark the cassettes to indicate if they had been exposed or not. 1976.



A union meeting. The Art Students' Association. A bubble with Lyndal Brown beneath it. c1977



A union meeting this time with balloons aloft. c1977



A party in the sculpture workshop. c1977



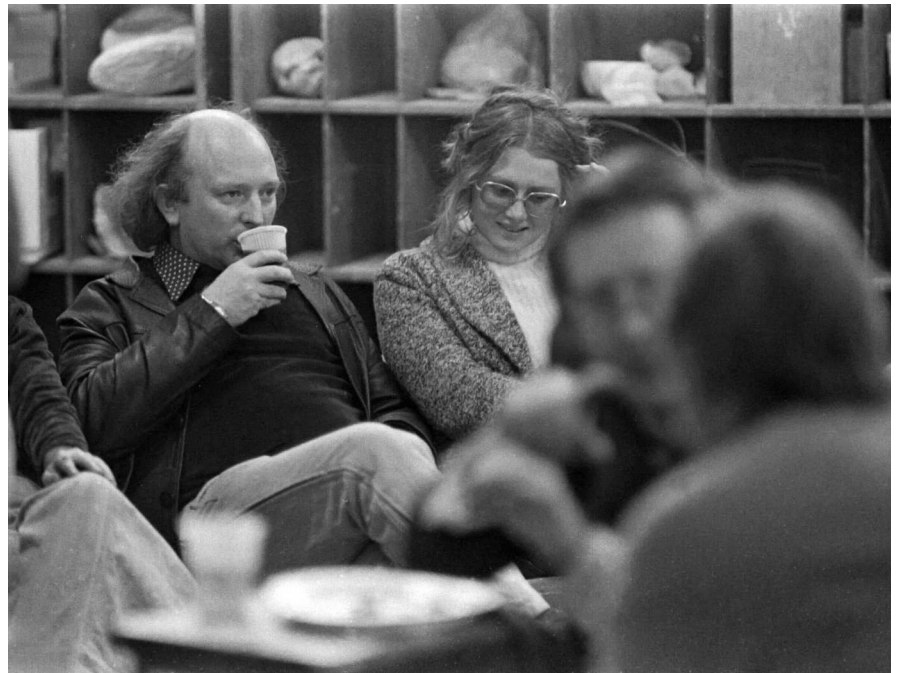
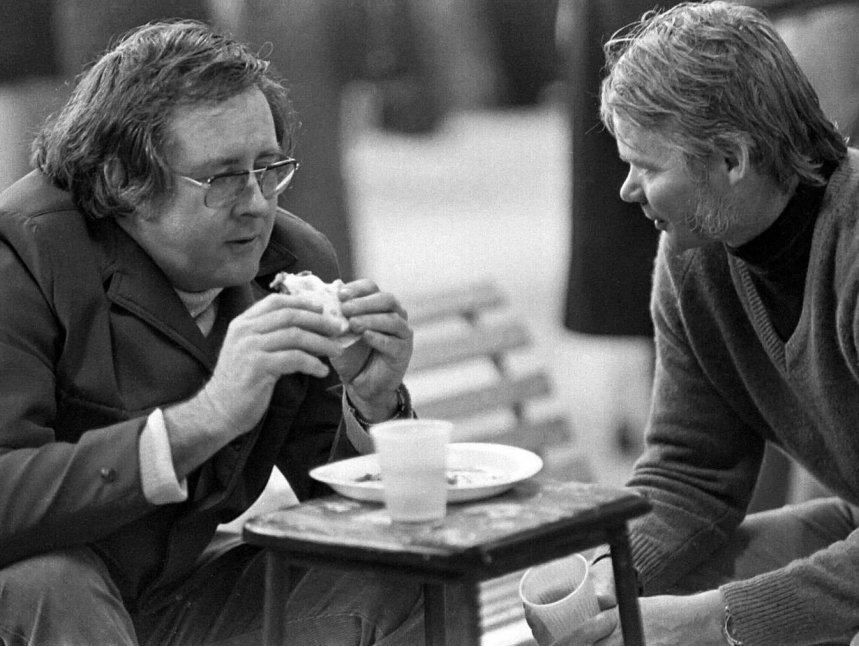
A party in the sculpture workshop. c1977



A party in the sculpture workshop. c1977



Left: Greg Raymond and far right: Chris Steel. A party in the sculpture workshop. c1977



A party in the sculpture workshop. c1977

Ron Morrison top left.

Gary Jones, with Bruce Sands, Sanders Morrow and John Brown back on.

McLaughlin

Alf Scott left with Brad Levido .

Frank Celtlan



Brad Levido



Frank Doyle doing the BBQing with Steve StJohn and Serena McLaughlin behind.



Sue Paull



Gary Jones



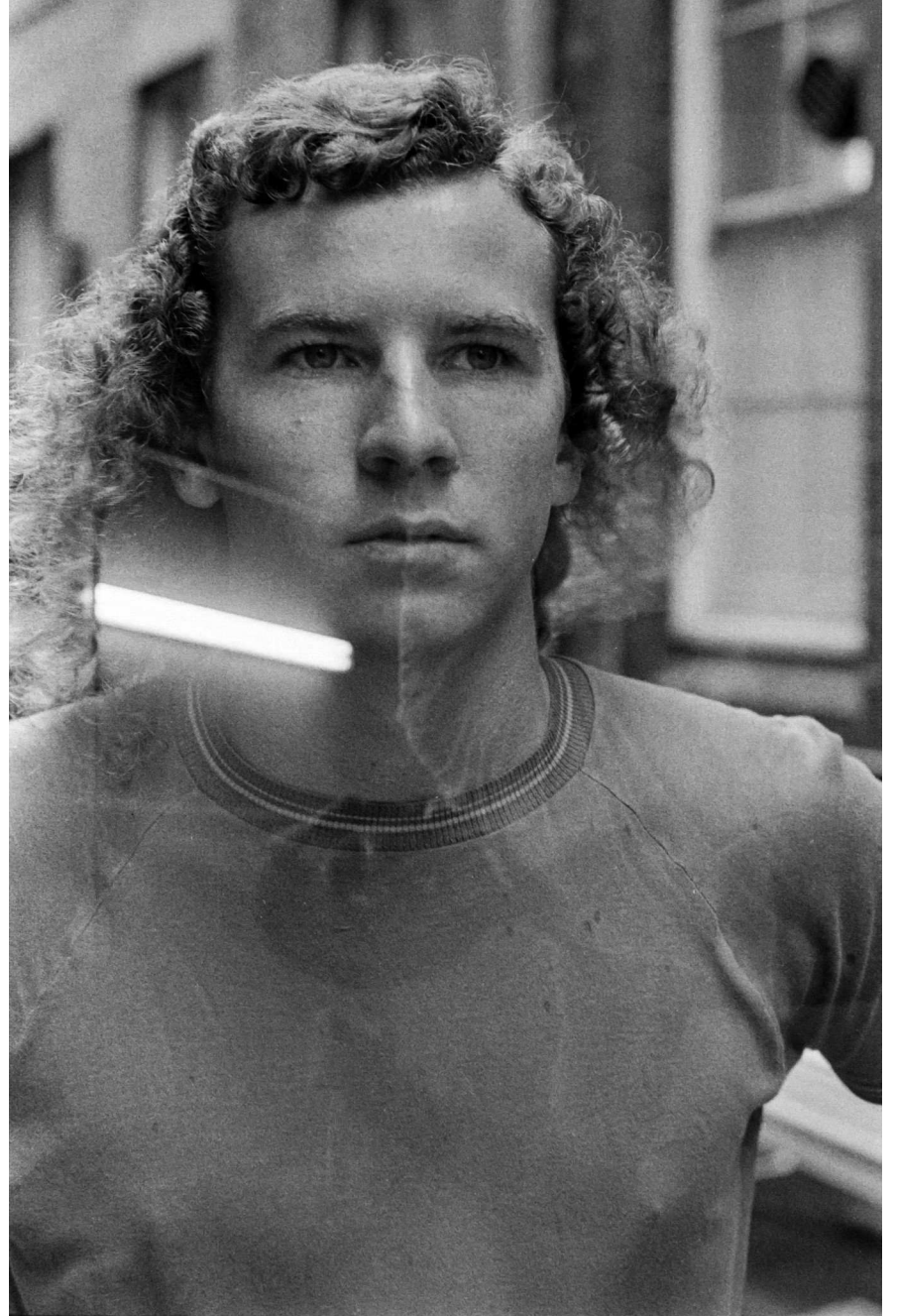
A guest lecture. c1977.



Undraped model with Jim Carrier. Drawing studio. c1976



Brushing hair in the sculpture studio.



Frank Doyle in double exposure.



Joy Longworth (I think)







Joe Chisholm, Unknown, Gabby O'Connor with Maureen Tredenick centre.



Doug Huxley with Laurie Ware. Peter Singleton and Aldona Zakauraskas in the background. Doug had come to Hunter St to tell us what was going to happen to us or tell us why it had happened to us.

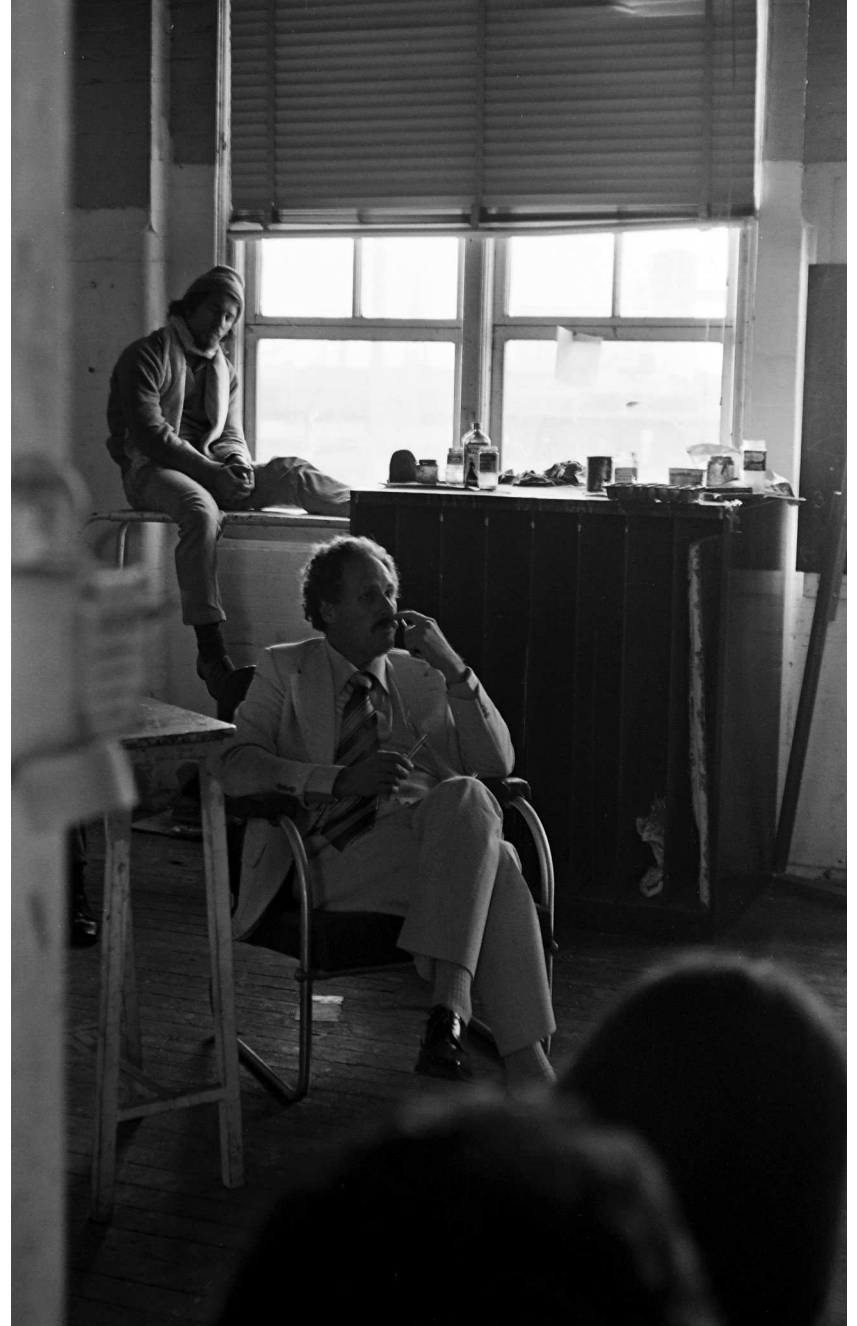


Sue Paull speaking with Sue Mitchell looking on





The meeting continues. I must have been bored. Maureen smoking. Strange to see people smoking in class.





Frank Doyle , Winson Brown and Amanda King





Another lecture. Ron Morrison in the background. Simon and Birgitte Hansen front row.



A staff meeting at Sanders the road above the butcher shop. Aldona Zakauskas and Roger Broadbent behind Helen far left with Mrs Grey coming in.



Barry Shepherd left, Helen Whittle (I think) Peter Singleton Behind Laurie Ware, Dave Hawke sleeping, Frank Celtlan and John Montefiore (Monty) then Alf Scott with John McGrath and Trish Wilson (Patricia Wilson-Adams) and Chris Sanders. I got to attend these meeting as a student union rep.



Ron Morrison, Chris Sanders and Dawn Burston in another meeting  
A guest lecturer



The butcher shop. Art school office above.  
Julie Moore in stripes.





Looking from above the sculpture workshops.  
Heidi Leach made a wire frame sculpture that hung there for a long time.



The lane looking towards the printmaking studio



A guest lecture, both pages.



Laurie Ware with Aldona Zakauraskas. Chris Graham rolling a smoke and Jackie Gorring seeing the camera. Dave Roach and Yahoo Serious (Greg Pead) behind Laurie  
Next page: Mike Parr with Tony Bright foreground.





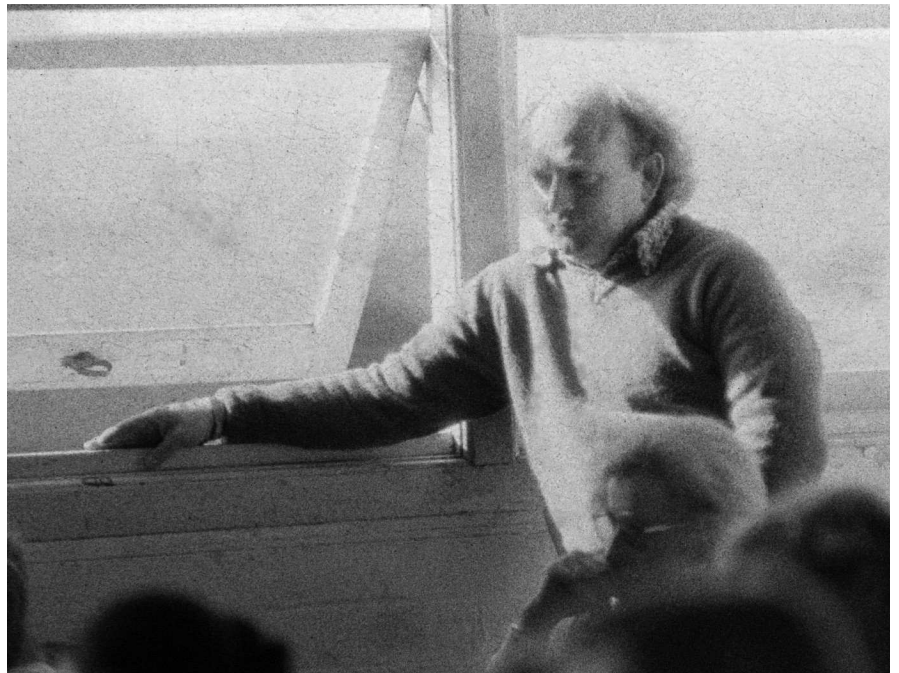


Japanese guest sculptor Michio Ohara.

Another lecture



Japanese visiting artist.



Frank Celtlan



Unnamed student in the painting studio with Simon.

More from the meeting with Doug.

Another lecture.  
Printmaking.  
Next page: Guest lecture.



Guest lecture



Lee, just the first name sorry.

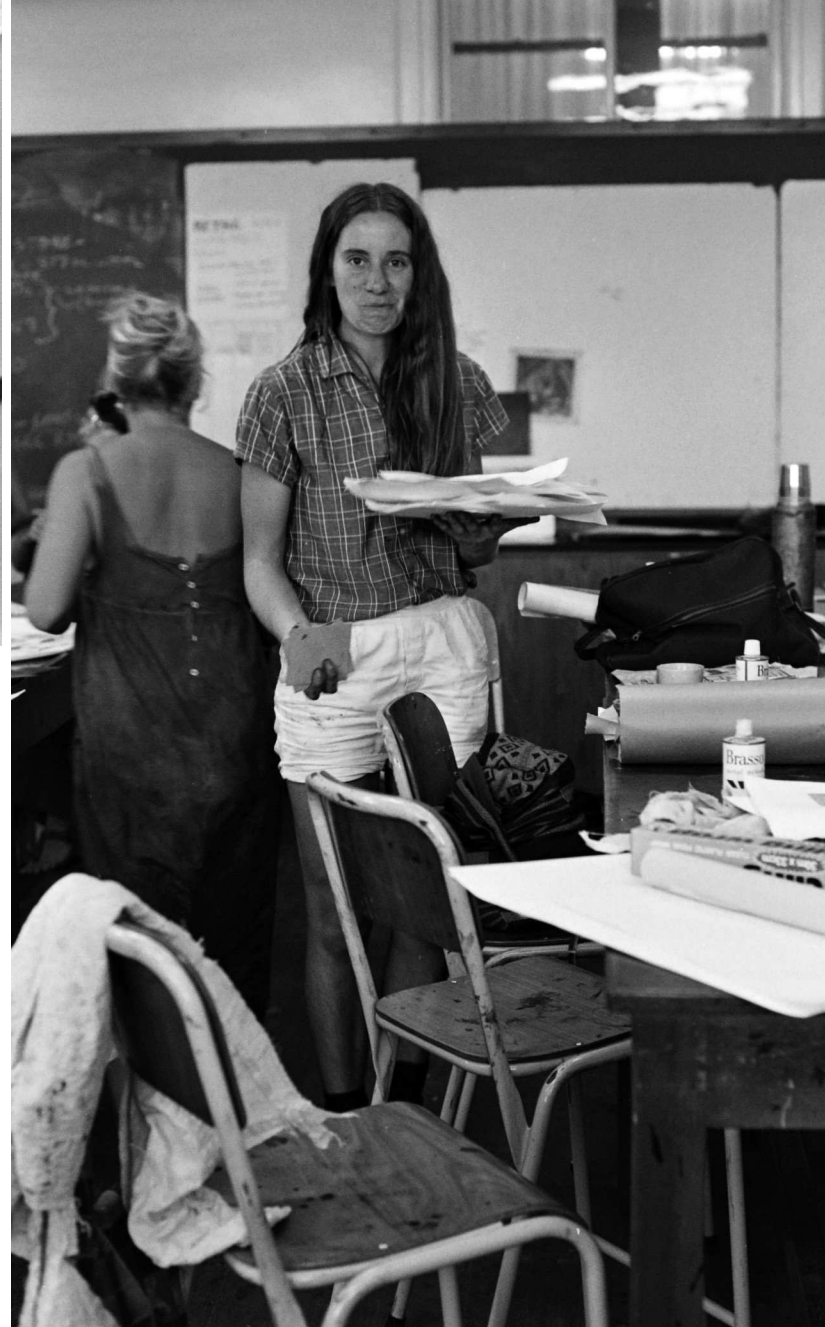




Nerelle Lewis, painting



Heidi with Trish Wilson in printmaking.



Chris Eade in printmaking

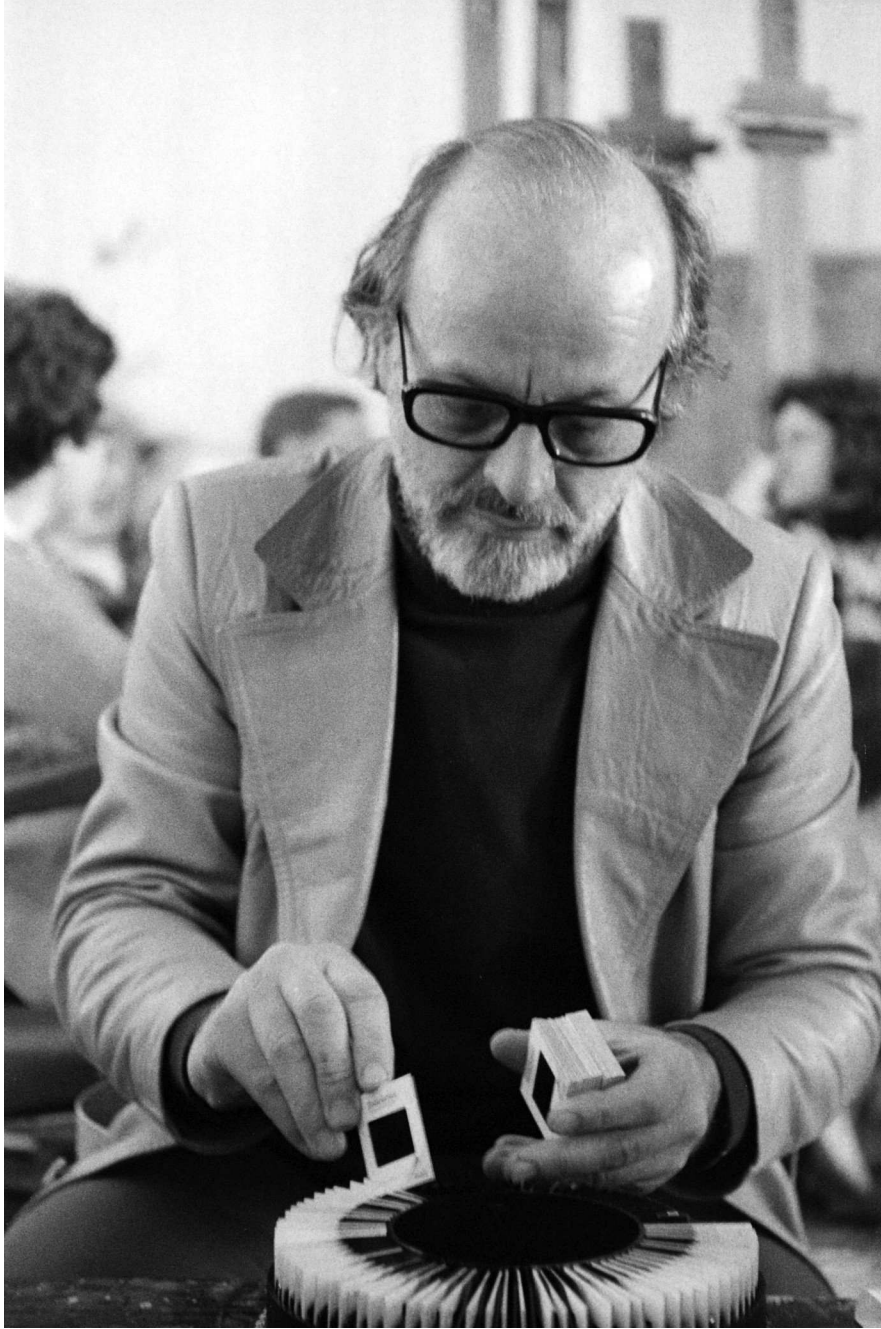


Sue Paull





Joe Chisholm



Guest lecturer



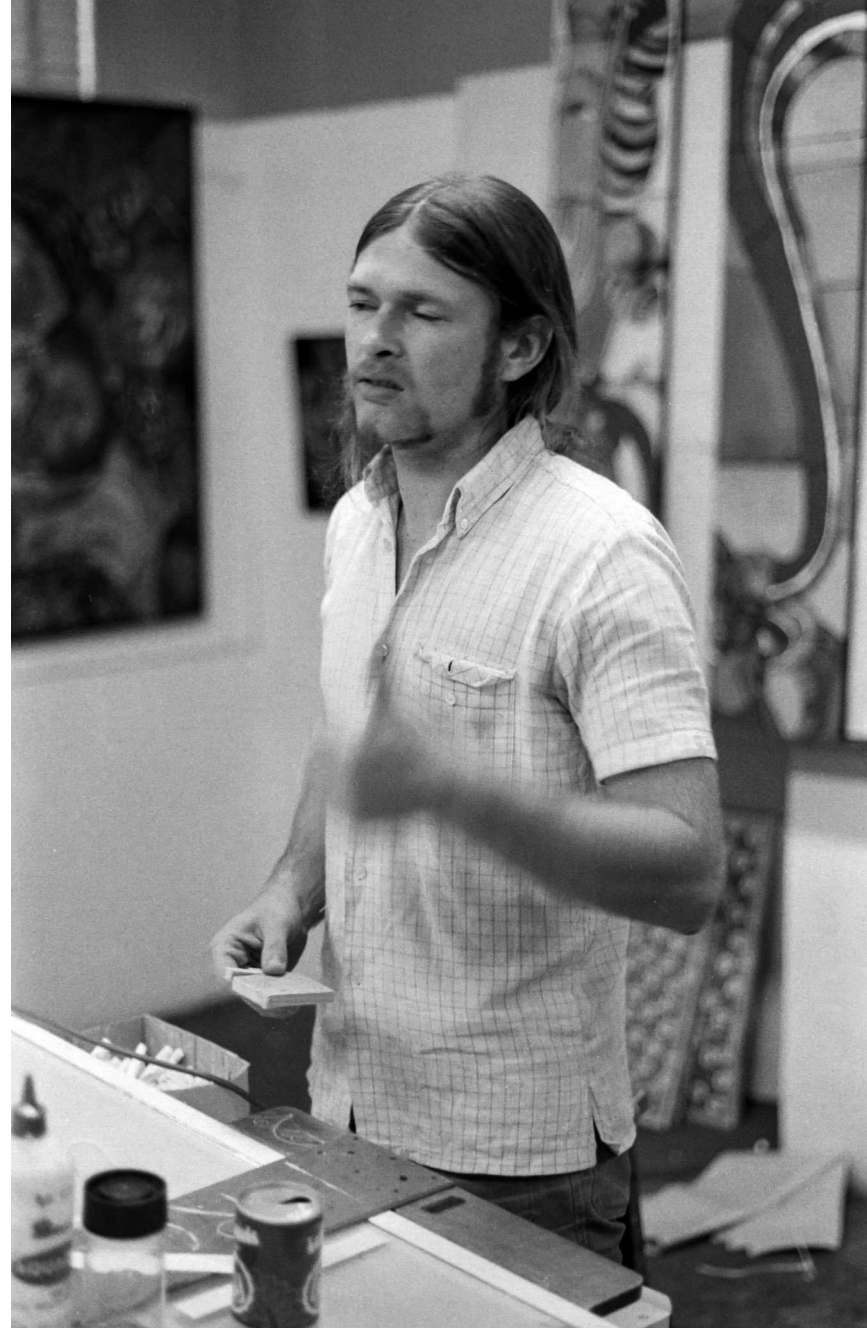
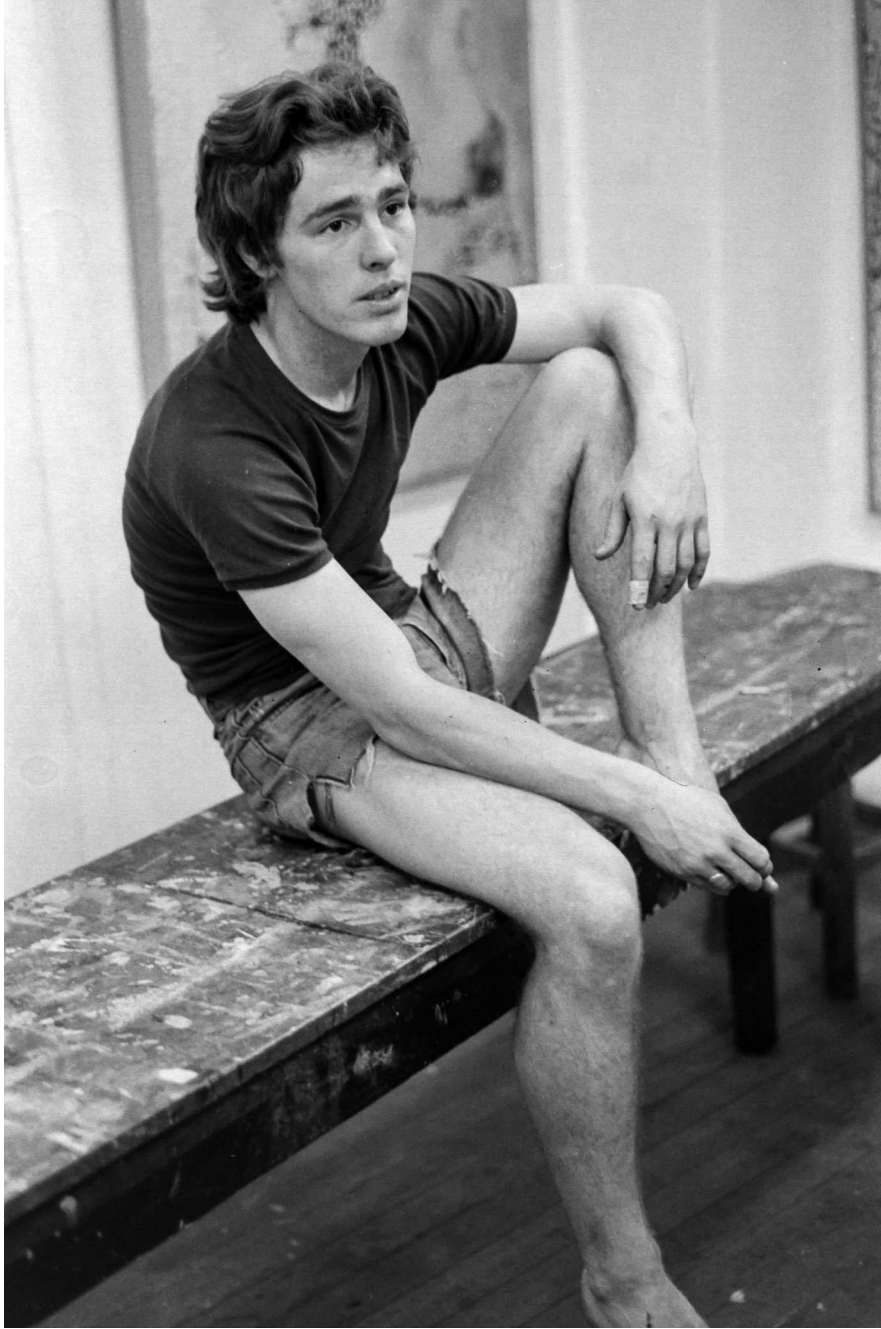
Guest lecturer



Jackie Goring and pup.



Heidi Leach and dog with Joy Longworth and Dave Roach standing.



Bruce Sands







An artwork improvisation. Carolyn, Ian Campbell, Vicki Cridland (under the table) Wade McGuire sitting, but otherwise cannot remember, sorry.



Alex Macerov performing in the play Ubu Roi in the painting studio



Ubu Roi



Ubu Roi



Margaret Barr dance group visited and allowed photographs.





**MONEY**  
art school donation  
Monday students 50'

**DIRECTED BY**  
GODARD-RESNAIS  
VARDA-LEITCH-KLEIN-VENSE  
A NON-PROPAGANDIST FILM  
ABOUT THE VIETNAM WAR

**FAR FROM VIETNAM**



**DON'T LABOUR  
UNDER A  
MISCONCEPTION**

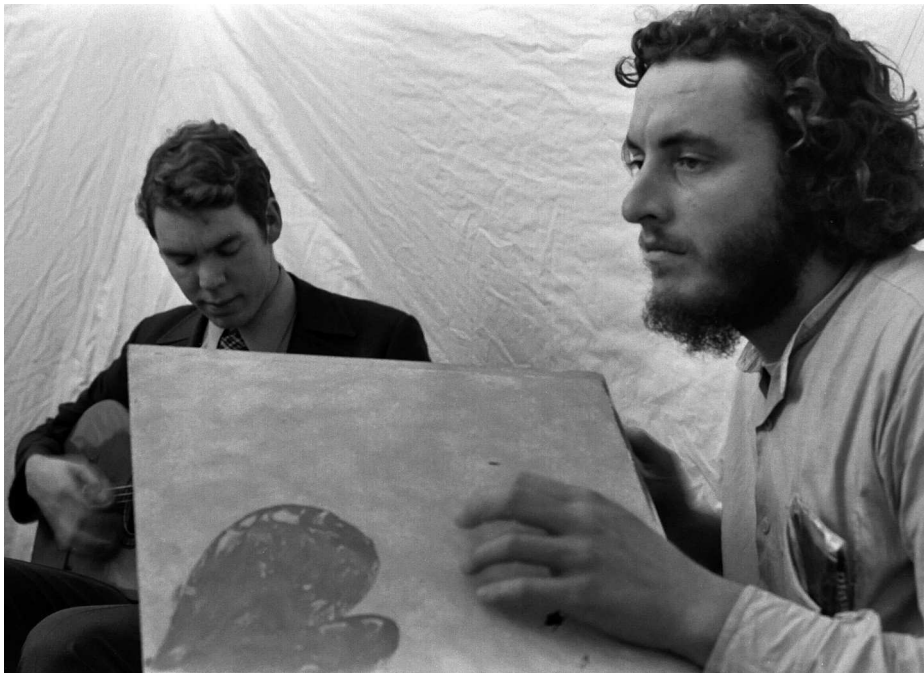
SEE FRANK O  
BEFORE 30 P  
ATKINS PRINTING  
PANEL IN

\$5 WILL BE PAID  
MORE CAF BAK  
T REA 1000 TO  
ROOM MUST 1000

300 + 400 Students  
Reviews  
Pick up your  
tickets now  
GENERAL 1000

**GUEST LE  
FRIDAY**

**MARGARET  
&  
SYDNEY DAN**



Above the pizza place two doors up Hunter Street, were the students studios  
Chris Graham.  
Left: John Earl (I think)



Someone installed a geodesic dome in the studio and there were impromptu performances.



Ceramics was in Chinchén Street out near the Tighes Hill TAFE campus. Aleida Pullar.



Ron Hunter. The technical officer for Ceramics and Photography. Photography was next door.

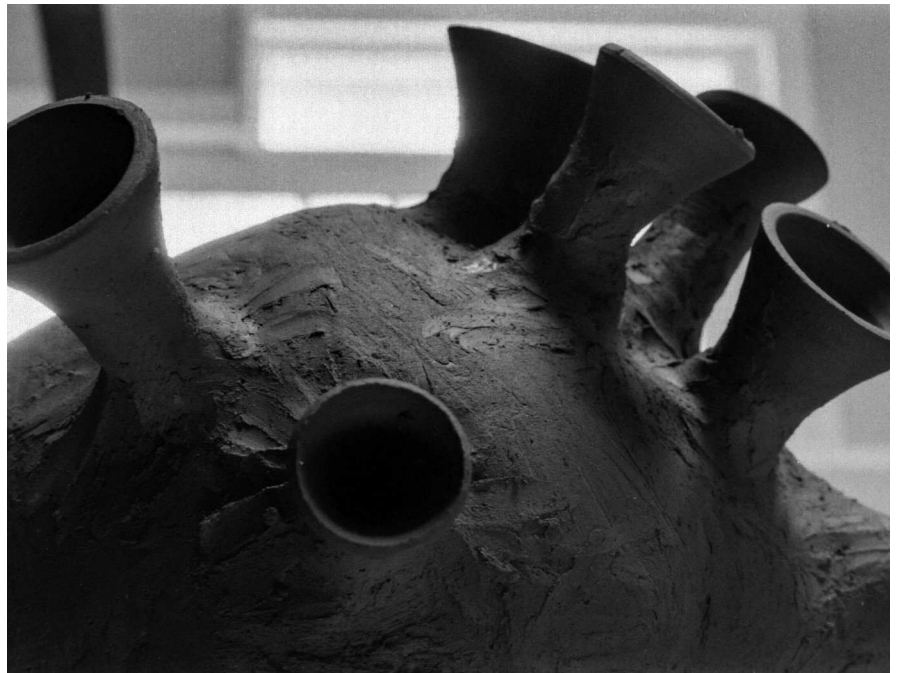


The quaint little house that was home to ceramics.

Aleida loading a kiln.

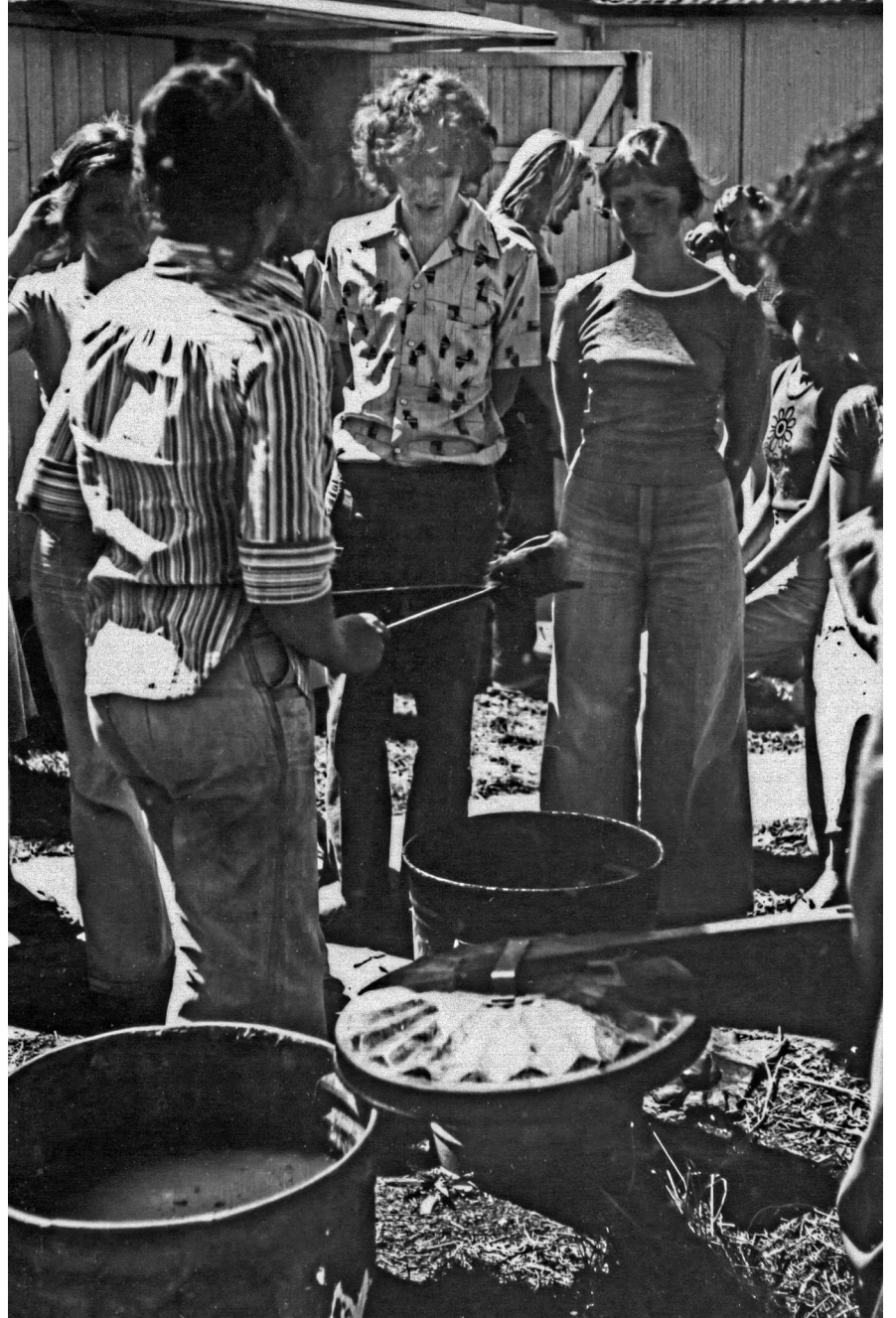


Sue Paull and Frank Doyle at the rear.





Aleida mid sentence

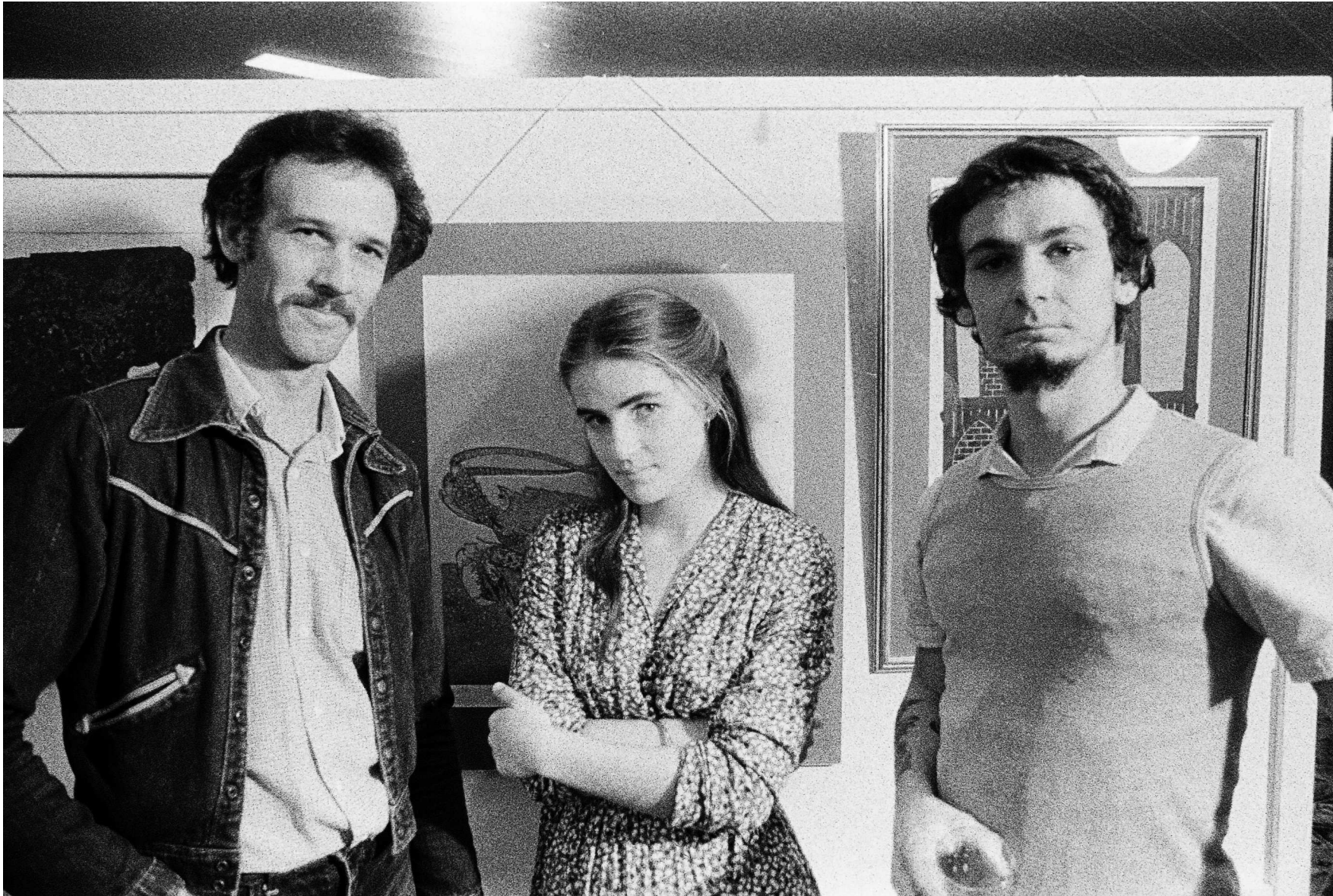


Aleida doing a raku firing at the back of the ceramics house.  
Ortho film. (made for high contrast copy work)





My ceramic sculpture. 1975



Wolfie, Jodi Shields and (I think) Steven who lived with us in Carrington for a while.



A play in the painting studio



Joy Longworth



Heidi Leach in her studio at home in Laman Street.



The Community Centre. Wickham. A meeting to establish or at least discuss a cultural plan for the city. Laurel Quillen far right.

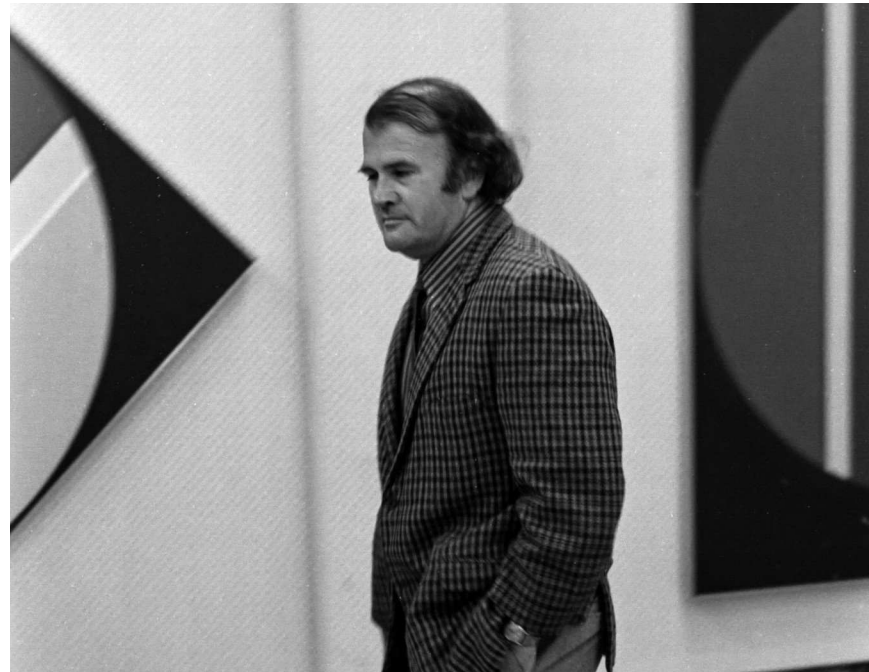
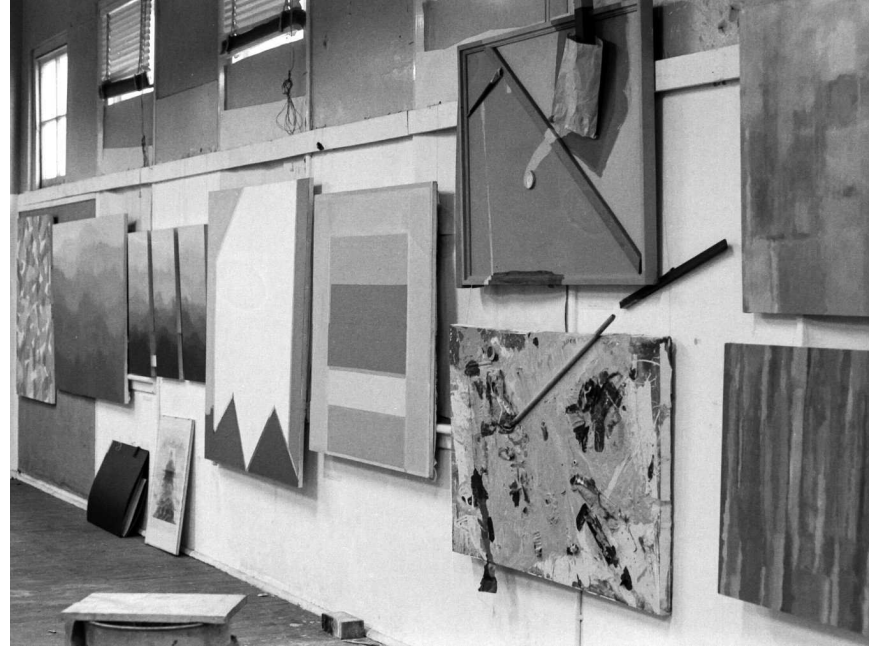
Anne Marie Willis, standing and Maureen Tredenick right and below.



An opening of John Martin's work in the Cultural Centre Gallery.



Heidi Leach at the same show.

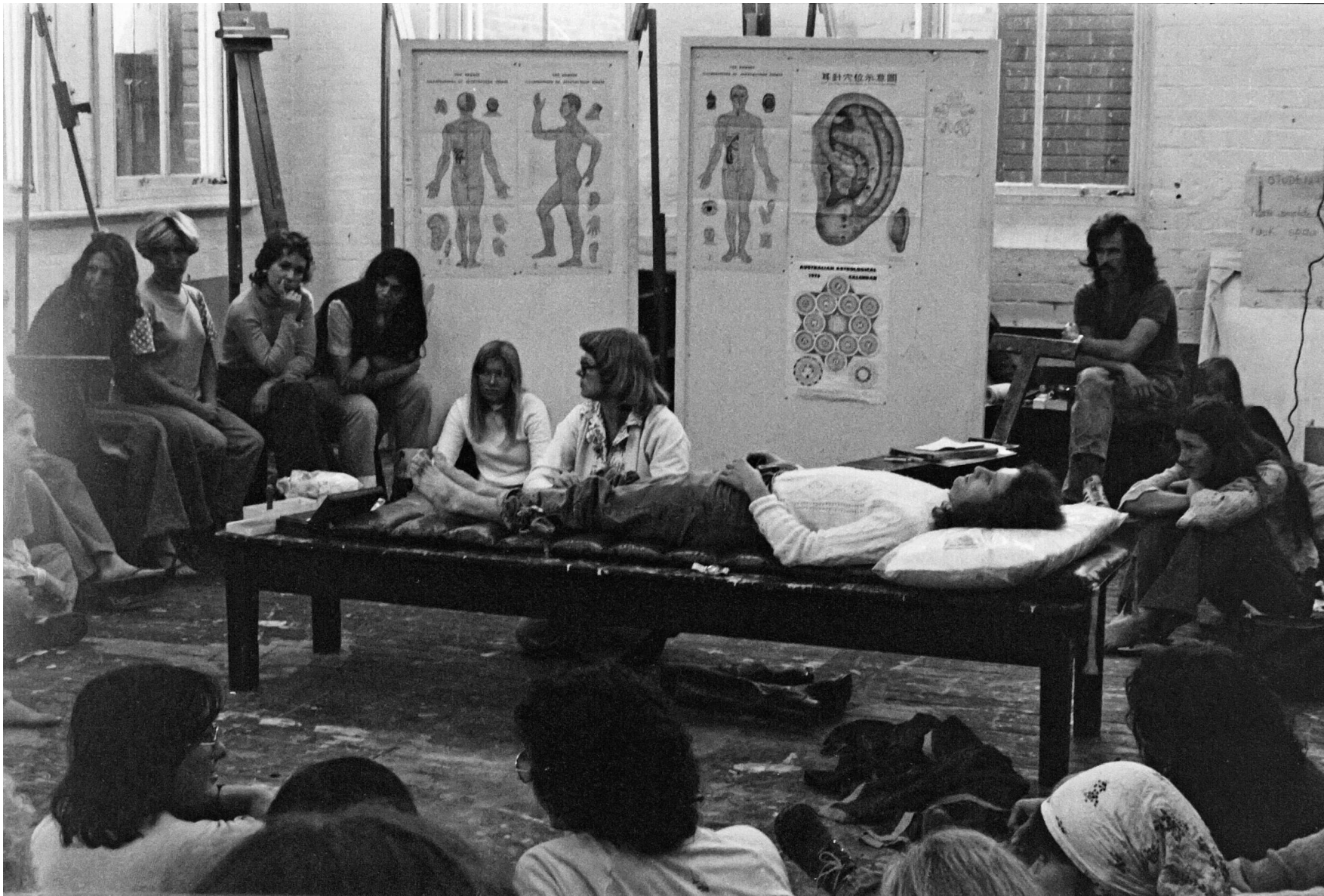


Top photos are of the painting show final year 1976 in the painting studio.  
Frank and Sonia Celtlan and Jane Scott looking at me.

Alf Scott at the Cultural Centre Gallery.



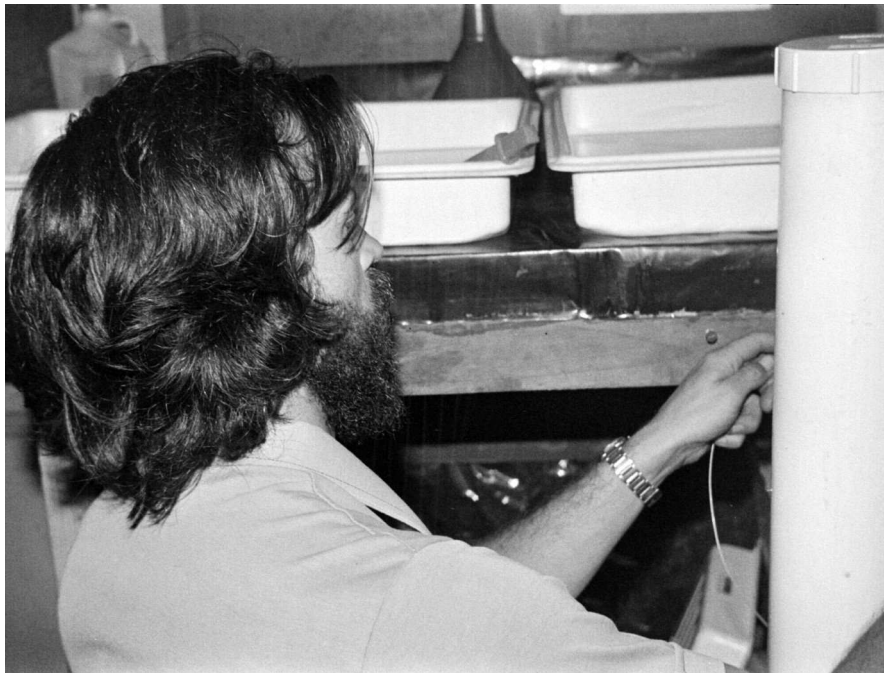
I arranged for my sister Margaret McDonald to come to Newcastle to do a guest lecture on acupuncture. Frank Doyle is the volunteer.



Me sitting at the back. Someone picked up my camera I guess.



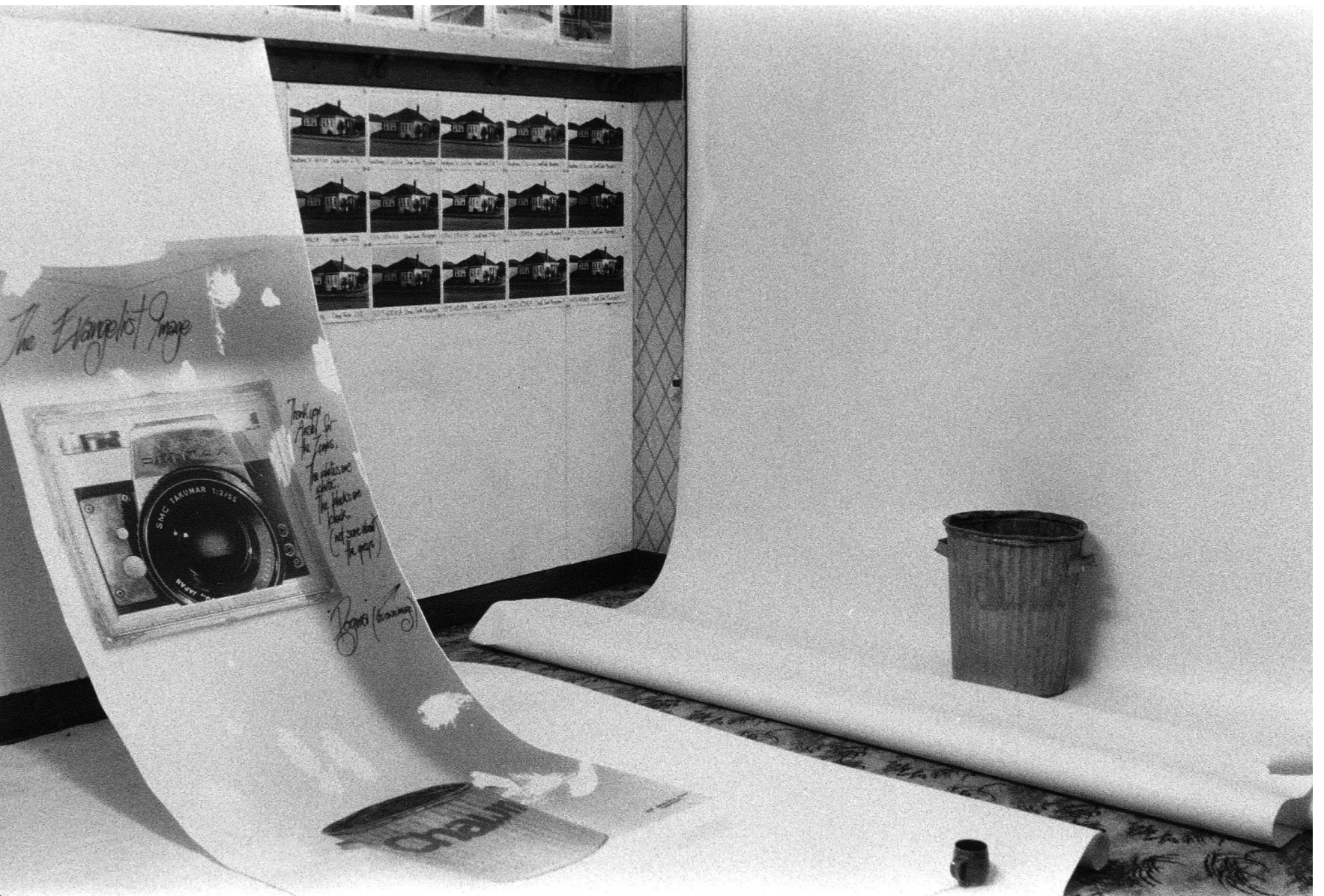
This is the Photography house next to ceramics in Chinchin Street. These are certificate students. Photo taken in 1978 in my first year teaching. They changed the sign at the top to Pornography.



I was able to build lots of stuff at the house. Take out a wall and put in pvc pipes as deep tanks for processing film. Those were the days.

Jodi Shields at Stockton Bridge on an excursion.

Frank Doyle



My tests for a show at Lake Macquarie Gallery. I worked in the darkroom at the house late, often. One night the head of school, Jim Rielly turned up about 2am and Viva (my dog) met him at the door. He said what are you doing here and I asked him the same question. So I left the service of TAFE and moved to teaching solely at the NCAE.



This is the Longworth Institute in Scott Street, opposite the railway lines. It was designed by Frederick Menkin. Brian Suters curated an exhibition of Menkin's works in the Newcastle Region Art Gallery 1978. I decided to make a rubbing of the facade with the assistance of Ian Howard (who did rubbings as artworks). So we teamed up with architecture students and art students to make it happen. You can see Simon standing on the awning above the hairdressers.



It was remarkable that we were allowed and able to do the rubbing.



Simon still on the awning. Brian on the scaffold.



Brian talking to me. One of my students on the camera.

Gary Sangster



Ian Howard and I moving the rubbing's after we finished. Ian later wrote letters of complaint about the inappropriate display of the work . He thought we did not acknowledge the students assistance. I know we did.



That looks like Tony Bright on the ledge. I am on the scaffold. I still have most of the rubbing.



Alfonso Mula in his little 4 wheel drive looking like a still from a spaghetti western. On the way to Bendermere. Dave, Chris and Jackie, Frank, John and I on occasion would work on his house being constructed mostly of stone in Bendermere.



Dave and Yarhoo working on a production. Wayne Stephenson at the window. The shot taken in infra red film.



It could have been an add for Newcastle Permanent.

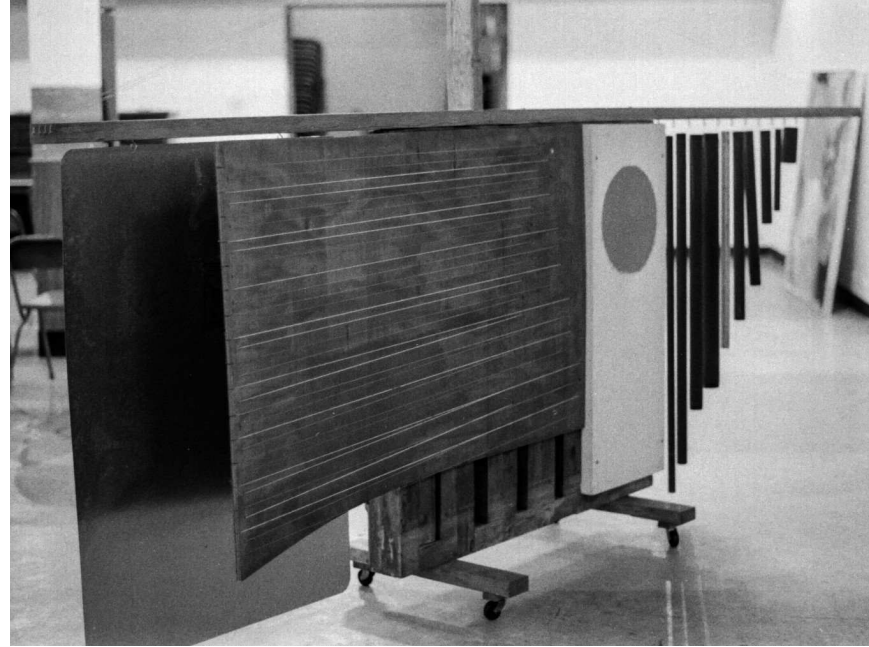


Alfonso and Dave at Dave's house in Marine View, off Wolfe Street.

The film crew down underground in Burwood Colliery . Dave and Yahoo.

They are researching movie cameras by the look of it. c1976

Frank Doyle helping with the lighting as was I, while I was not taking photos.



I made a sound sculpture for a happening/performance session in Union Street.  
John Martin talking to Dave Roach until one of them went to sleep.

The sculpture in use. Steve Barwell in rolled up pants with Jackie looking on.





Anne Von Bertoch in her gallery, Hunnifords Lane, Newcastle c1976.



Anne's gallery was open to students for sessions with the artist showing at the time. Anne provided food and venue for students to listen and discuss the artwork and hear directly from the artist about their work. Anne was an institution herself. This is Louis James talking with Brad Levido. Next page Doug Erskine.



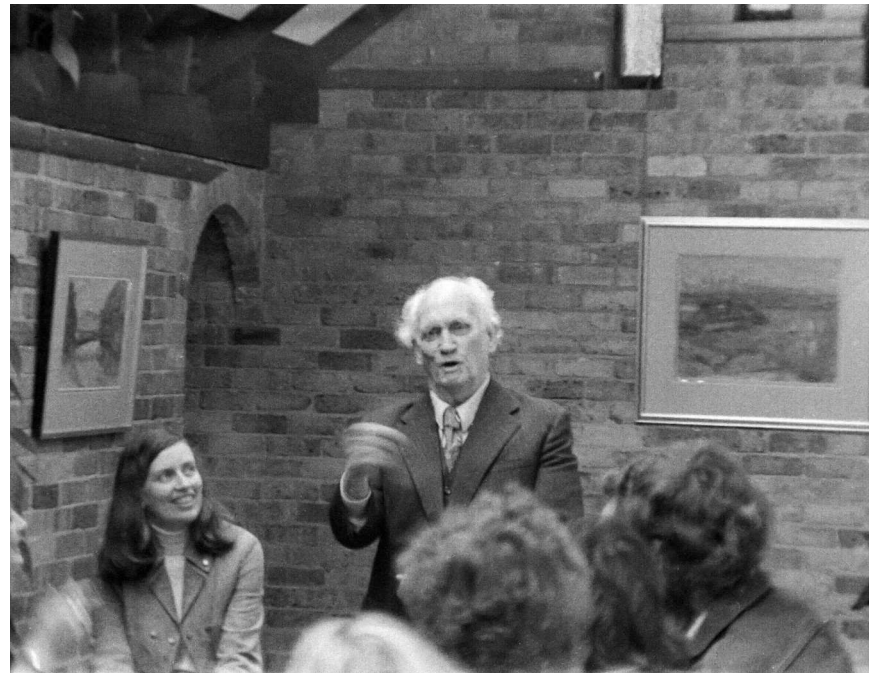


An artist I cannot name.

Claire Martin and Gavin Crichton

Gordon Rintoul and Gary Jones

Allan and Christy



Frank Celtlan

Lloyd Rees

Frank and Aldona

Lloyd Rees with Chris Sanders



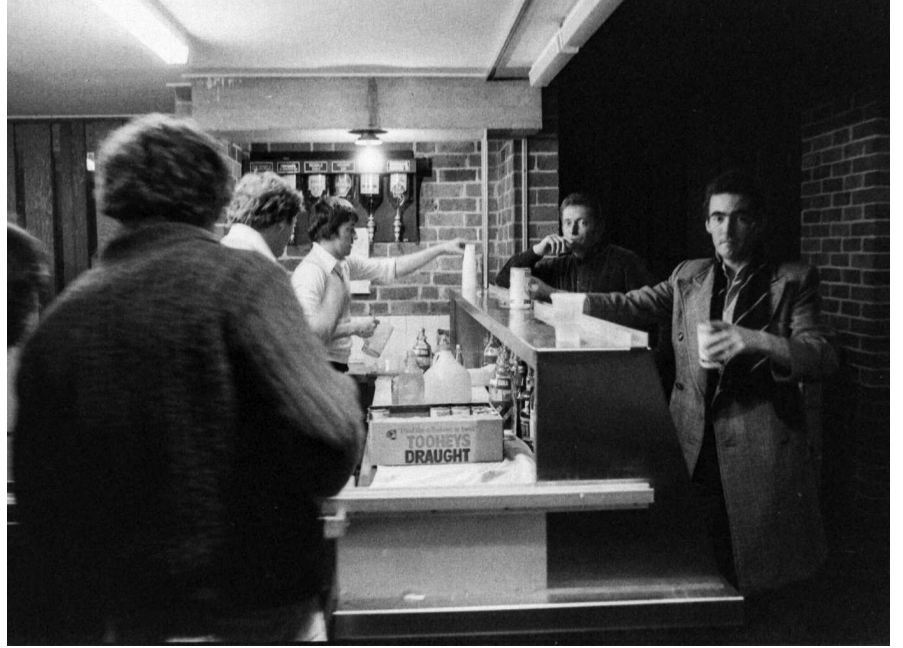
Brad Levido



Lloyd Rees in the gallery with Anne half seated. I think Chris Torrington took this photo.



Jim Carrier at the bar at the Uni.



Jeremy Livingston getting his drinks.



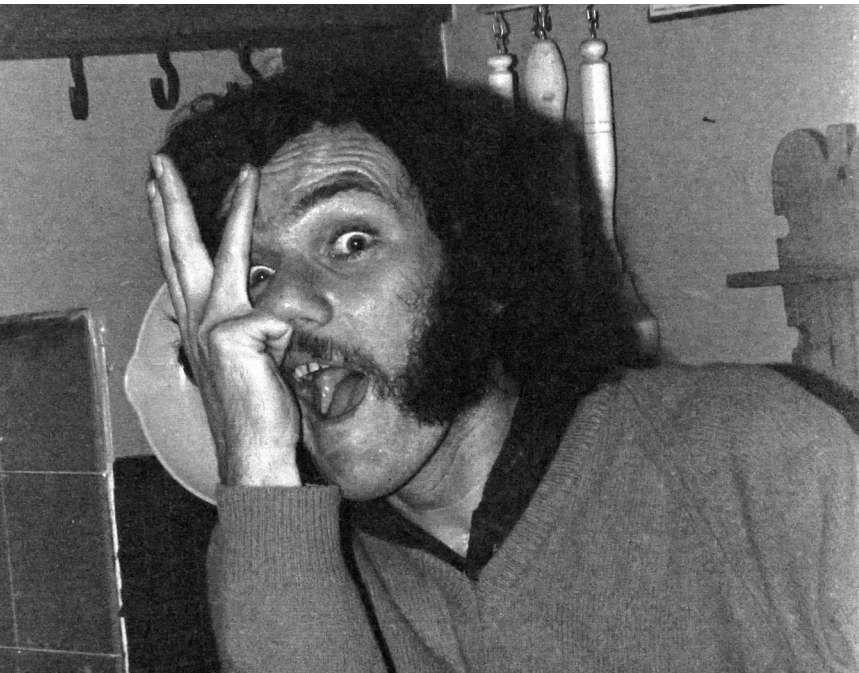
Victoria Philis.



Sioux Garside judging a photo show.

Chris Eade accepting her prize.

This is the presentation of awards for the Environmental Photographic Competition held by Newcastle City Council c1976. My work in the background. Eddie Richardson with Laurie Ware and Ron Morrison.



Chris Graham at work in Blacks, Hunter Valley Art Supplies.

Bruce Roland

Victoria Philis

Jackie Goring

Next page: Frank Doyle entering the Star Hotel for a meeting of the executive.

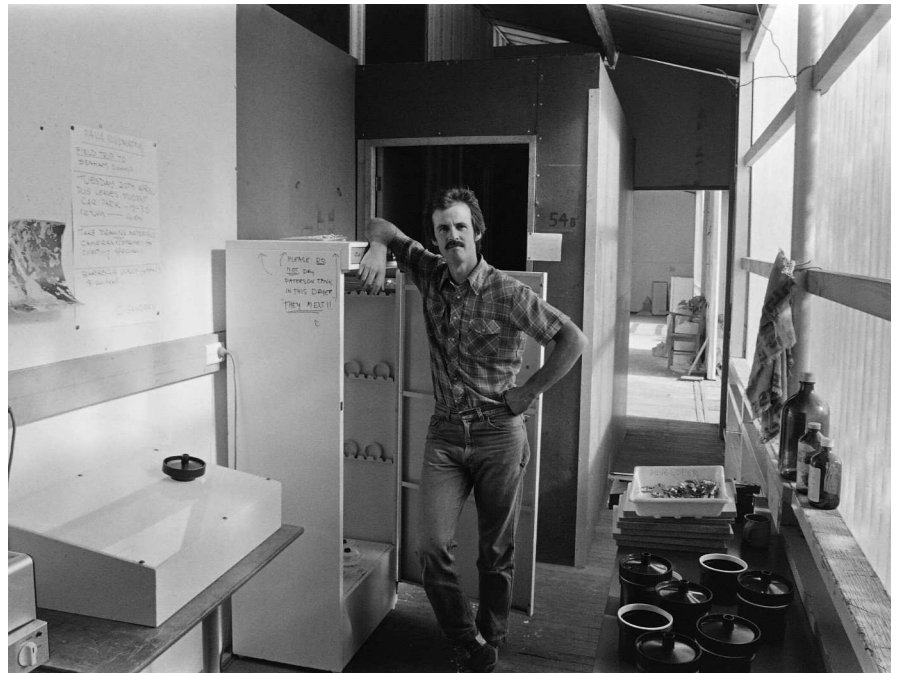
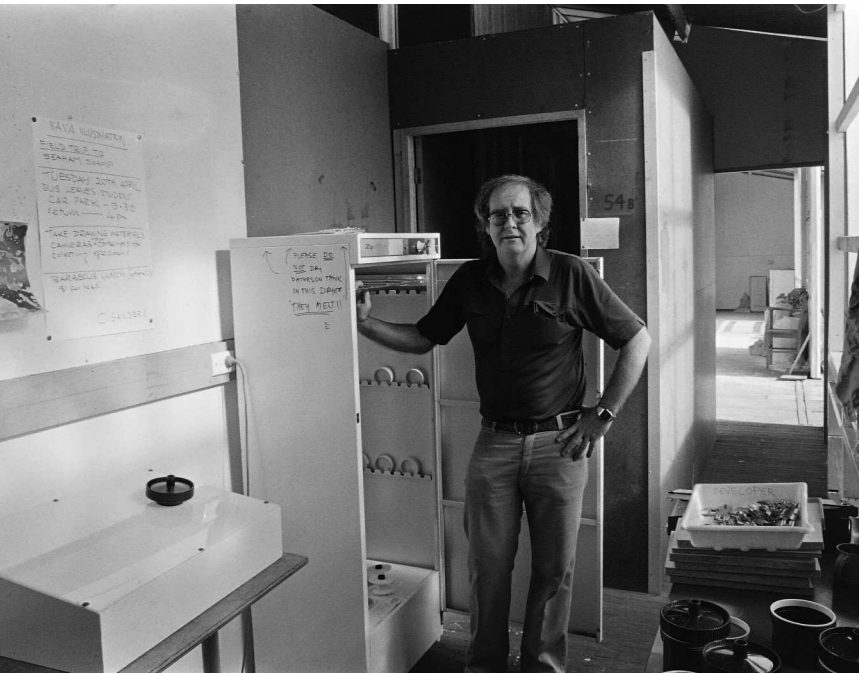
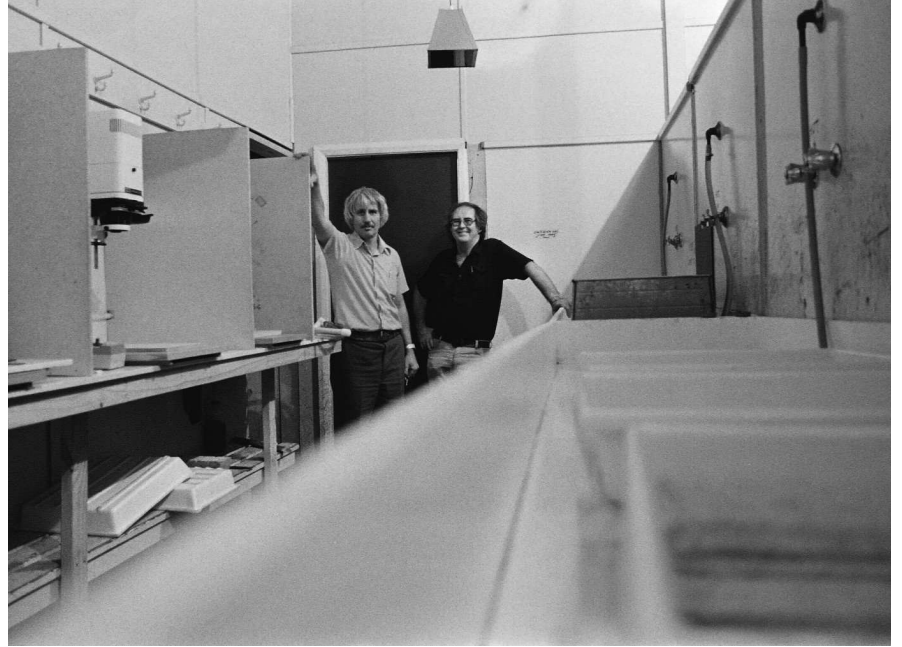




From my VW in front of Hunter Street TAFE. c1975



In the lane next to the Star Hotel was a cane furniture shop. These two old blokes worked there.

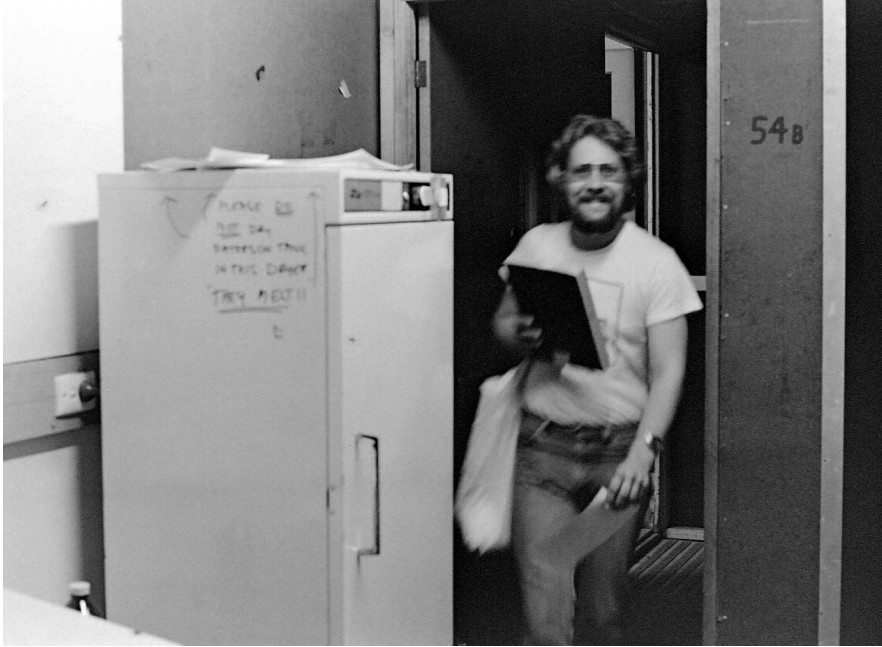


Mrs Grey in the office in Union Street NCAE Art School

Ron Morrison in the darkrooms.

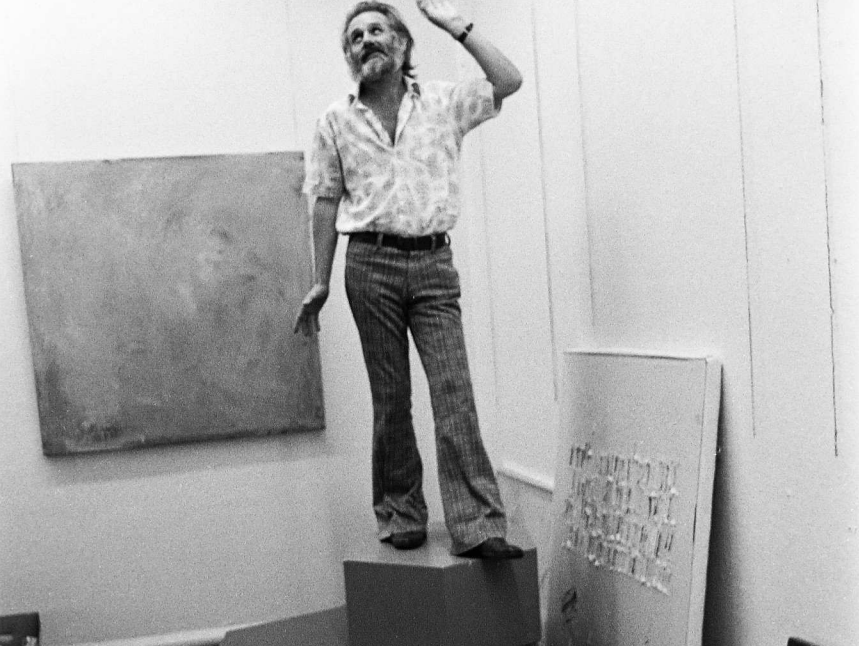
Kevin Griffiths with Ron Morrison in the darkrooms.

Allan Chawner in the darkrooms. c1979



Michael Hill coming into studio 54b.  
This was part of the opening of the final exhibition for art 1977 at NCAE.  
Photographs on the wall by Carol Carter

Allan making a point.  
The opening of the final exhibition for art had a performance in front of Carol Carter and Allan Chawner's works



Gordon Rintoul on a plinth in Macquarie Gallery Sydney 1977. Showing a selection of work from the 1977 final year show. Barry Shepherd

Birgitte Hansen, Bruce Sands, Gordon Rintoul, Chris Eade, front: Steve Beasley, Narelle Lewis, Joe Trehewie, Allan and Simon, Aldona Zakauraskas, Christine Sanders and Frank Celtlan with Barry Shepherd peeping around Birgitte's painting.



Newcastle Printmakers Workshop, c1980. Therese Kenyon demonstrating.

Beth Parnerby in the workshop at Union Street.



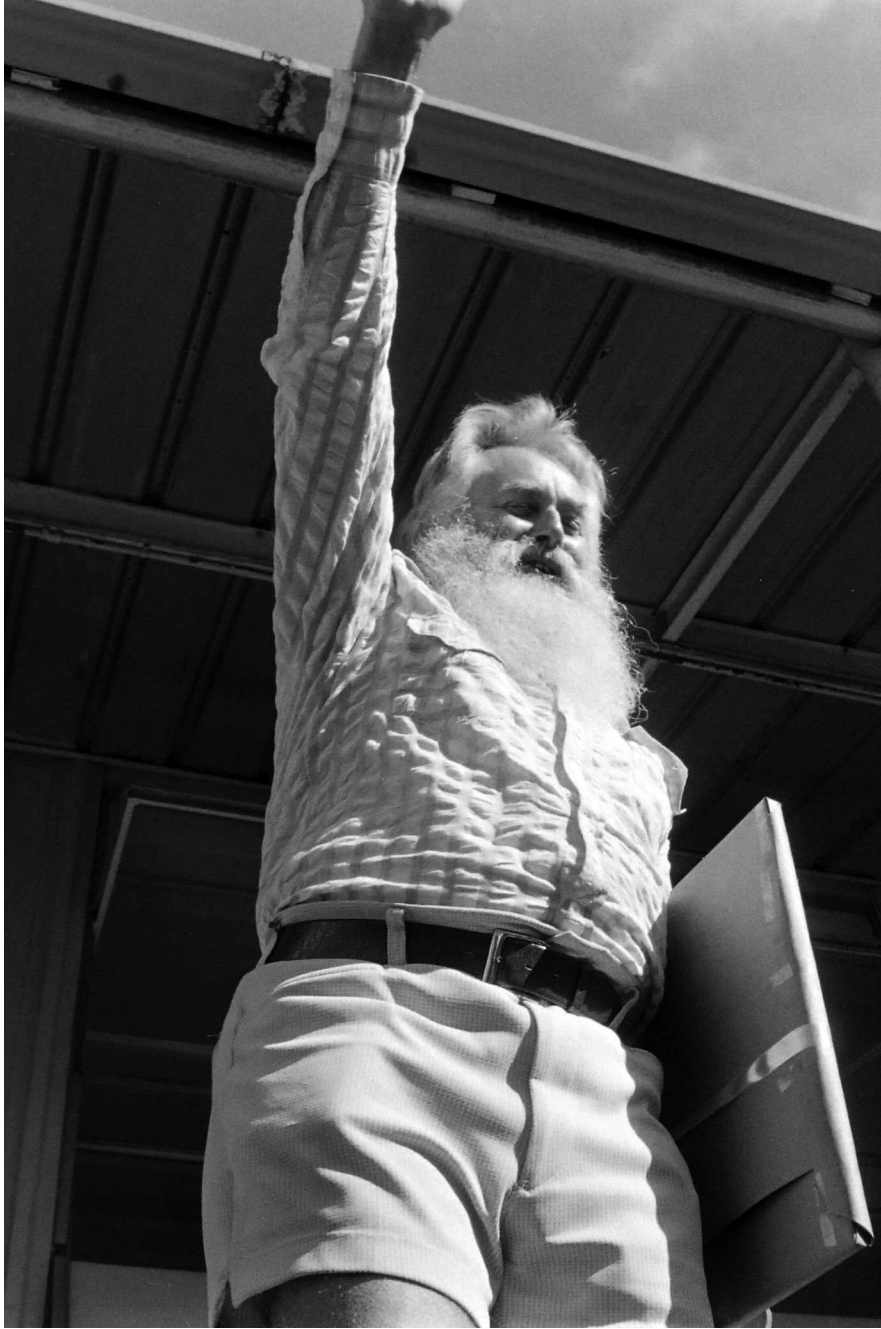
Therese Kenyon with Birgitte Hansen teaching or using the workshop .

A show of the Printmakers Workshop. Not sure where. Maybe Zara Street Gallery.

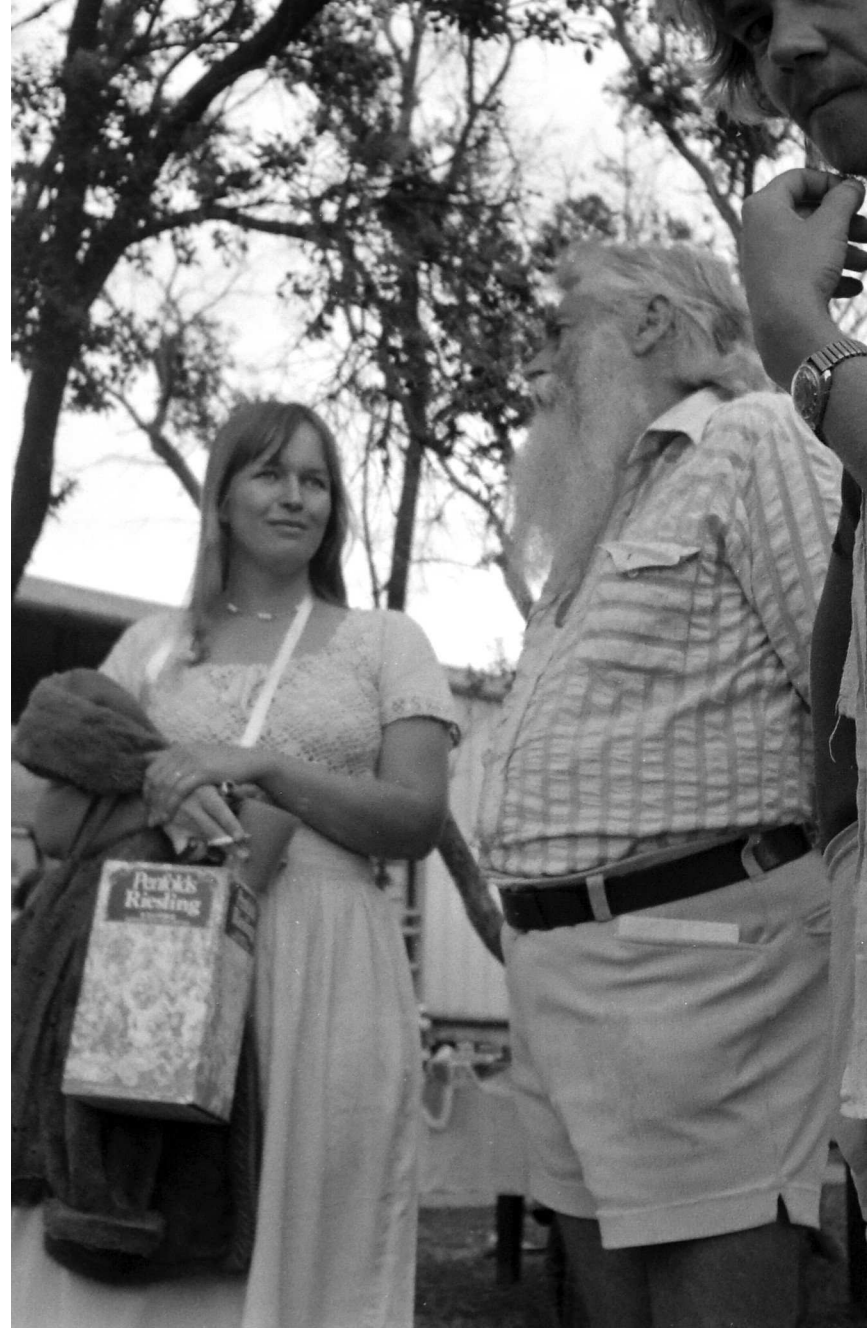




Therese Kenyon in the prints c1980



Laurie Ware. Farewell at Union Street.



Birgitte Hansen with Laurie Ware. c1977



The crowd at Laurie Ware's farewell. Anne Von Bertoch and Frank and Sonia Celtlan visible in the crowd.



Aldona Zakauraskas



Frank and Sonia Celtlan, Aldona Zakauraskas, Laurie Ware, with Eddie Richardson.

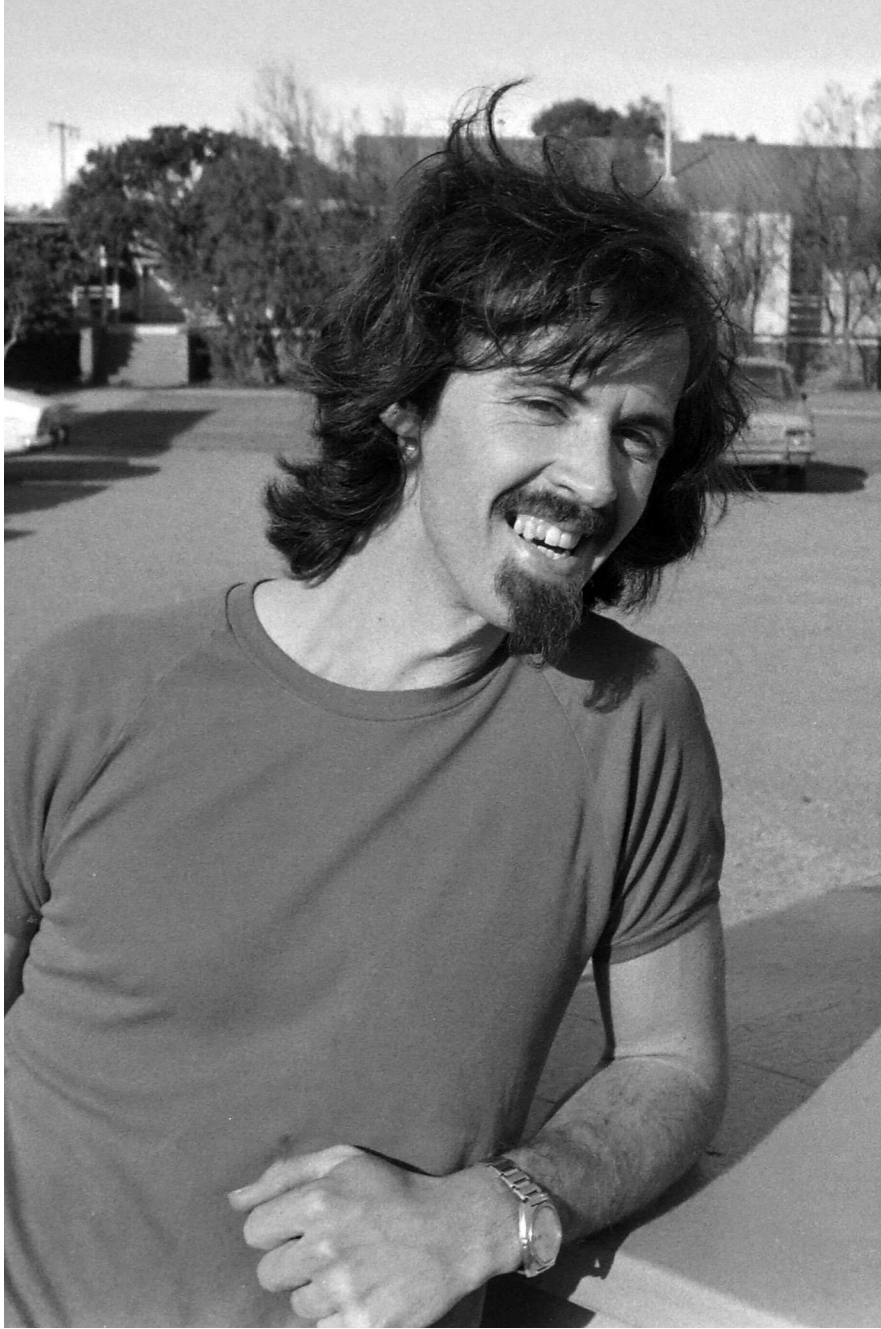
Barry Shepherd with Gabby O'Connor



Alex Macerov



Ron Morrison with Sonia Celtlan.



Allan Chawner on the day.

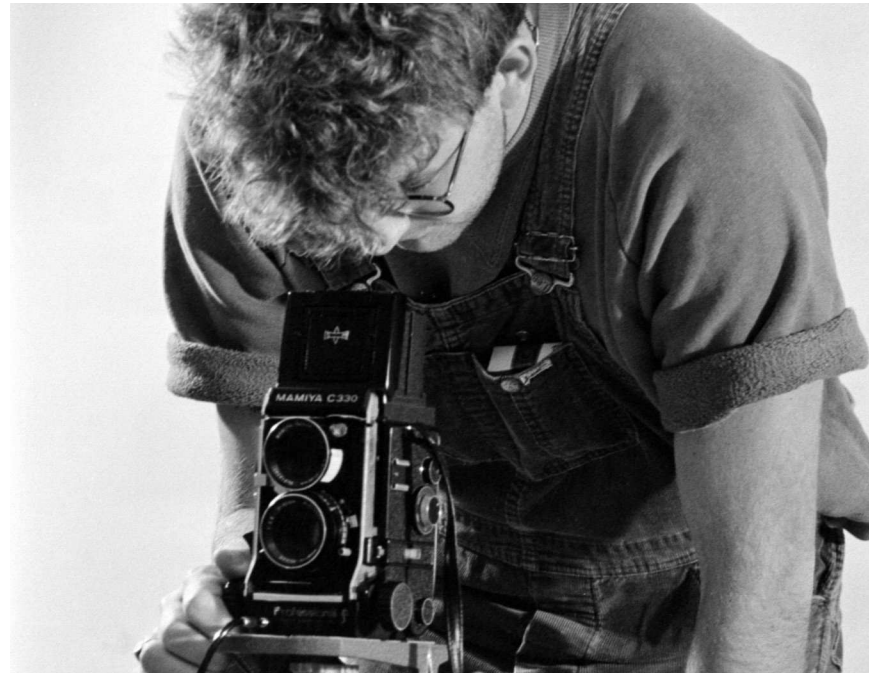


Frank Doyle and Gabby O'Connor



Me patting a stray outside the demountables referred to as 'the station' at the back of the Hunter Building, NCAE.  
The quarry tiles of the NCAE that became HIHE and the UniNew.

The back of the Hunter building c1976



Ron Morrison at the door to C55 in the Hunter Building c1978

Ron talking to Carol Carter c1977

Unknown with Sue Paul

Peter Rabbit with a Mamiya 6x6



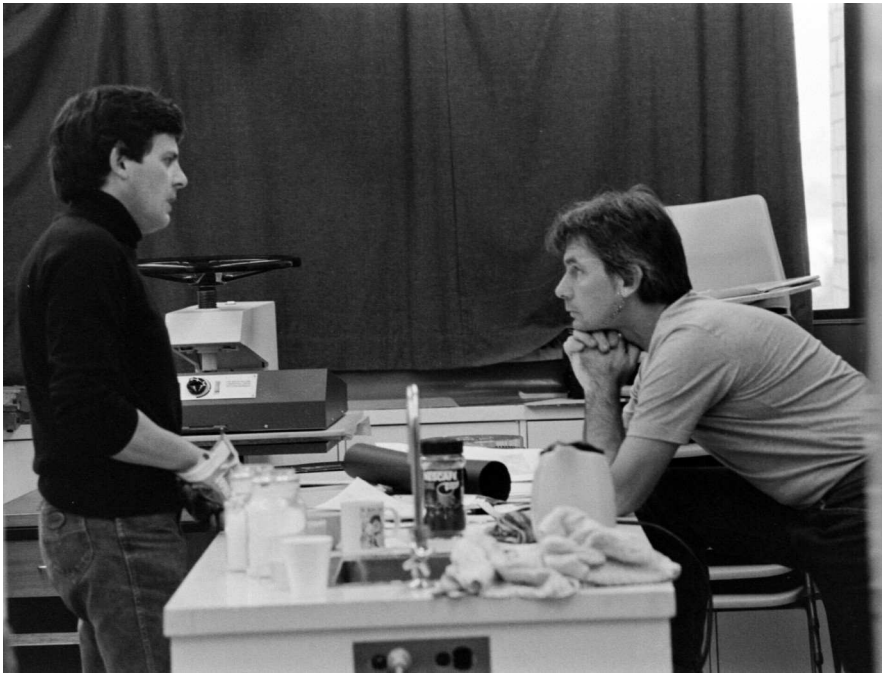
Frank Doyle, unnamed student (that I should know the name of) with Ron Morrison putting up a show in the concourse NCAE c1977



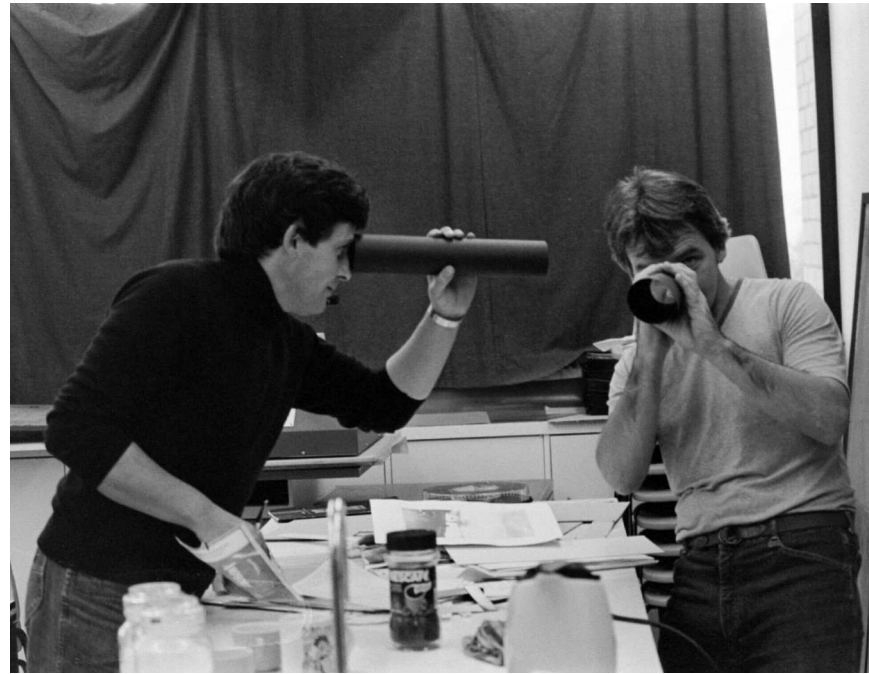
A staff meeting in video. Gary Sangster, Ken Levenson (hiding) Sue Hunt taking to Chris Sanders, Ron Morrison, Roger Broadbent, John McGrath standing, Trish Wilson, ??printmaker, Beth Parnerby, Gordon Rintoul, Frank Celtlan in hat , then Gary Jones, Aldona Zakauraskas and Printmaker and unknown.



Carol Carter, Irene Whitton and Richard Pearce in Ron Morrison's class with unidentified others in foreground. c1977.



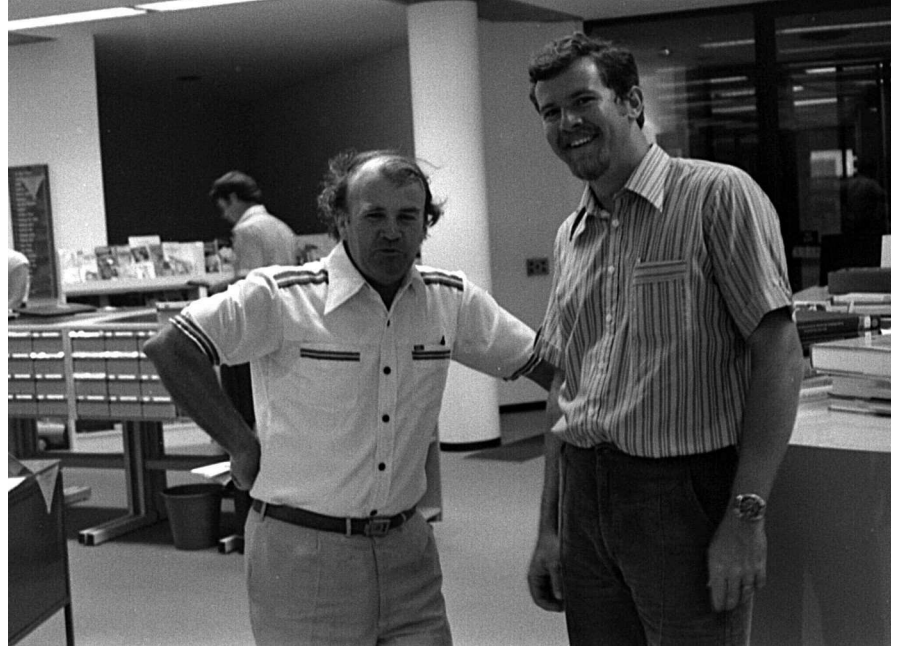
Dave Hawke with Mik Ilett in C55, NCAE c1979



Excursions



Canteen area NCAE c1977



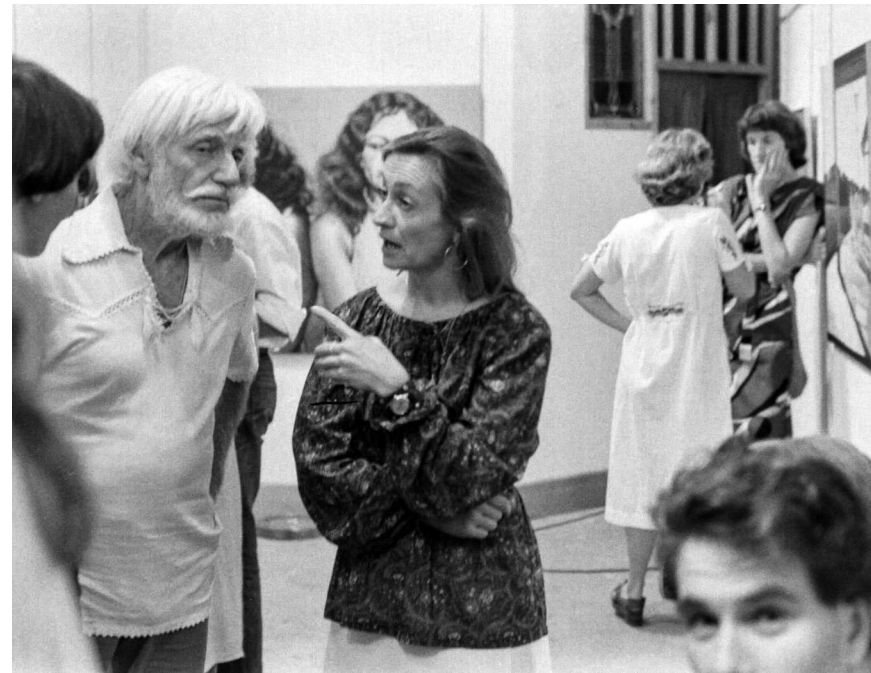
Alf Scott and Frank Doyle in Huxley Library



Mr Bliss of Bliss Symbolics, NCAE c1978. I invited him to talk.



Paul Fogo on right showing the first instantaneous international art exchange. c1977



Dianne Beevers and ? watching Freewheels.  
 Excursion to Sydney to the Australian Centre of Photography. ??, Roger Broadbent,  
 Allan Chawner, ??, Ron Morrison, Gary Webber.

Freewheels play with Aboriginal content in hall on the corner of Union Street and  
 Parkway Avenue. c1976  
 Maureen Tredenick talking to Clem at the Carrington Exhibition 1980



Carrington Exhibition, called Focus on Carrington. Birgitte Hansen and I . c1982

I had a slide show as well as prints on black plastic.

Bert Lovett looking at "Street Walks" Young Street

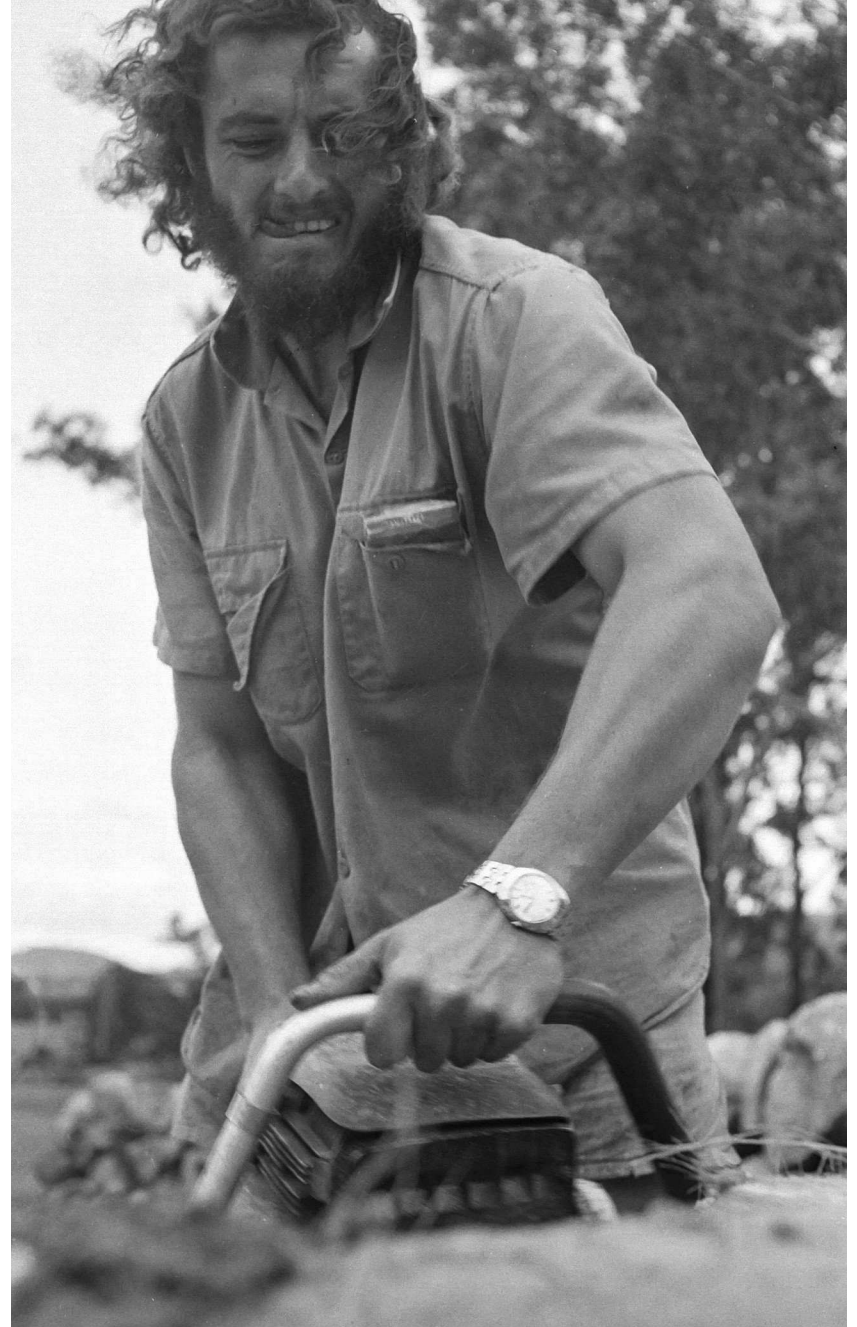


Carrington Public School visit.



Jackie and Chris Graham and Jo Trehewie

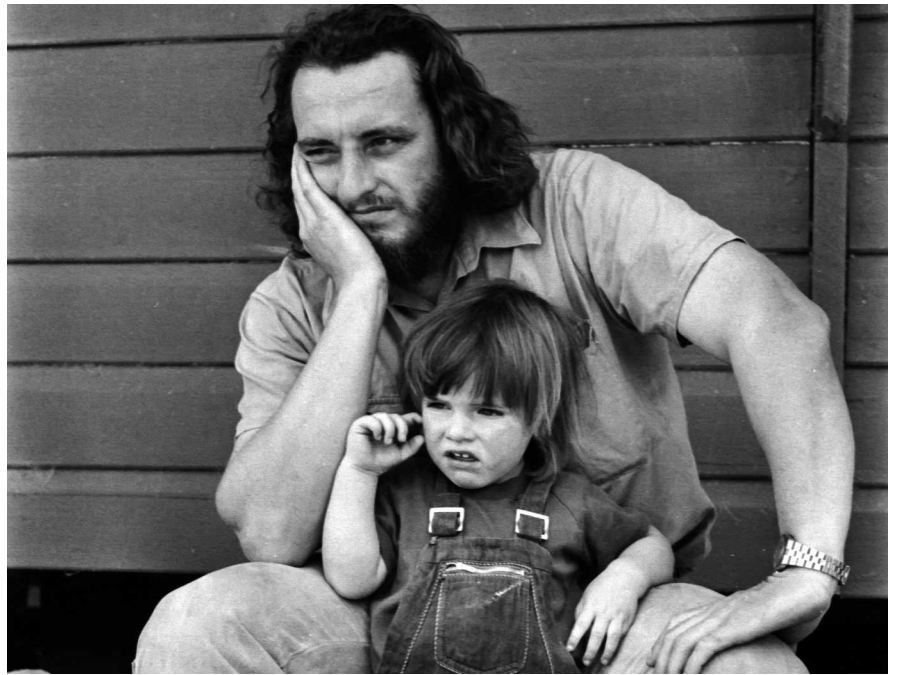
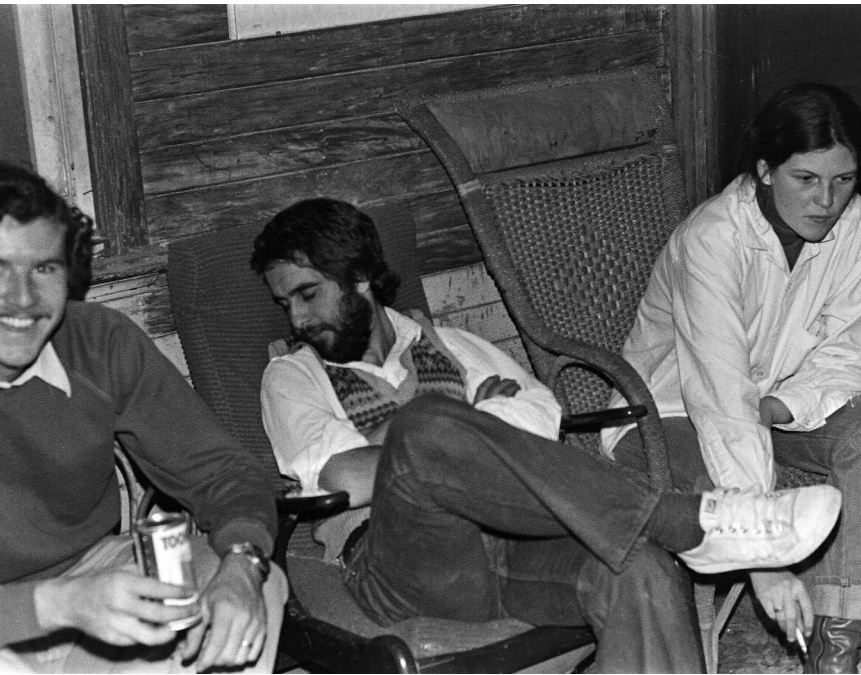
Simon Chawner with Dave Roach



Chris Graham



Jackie Graham at Clarence Town

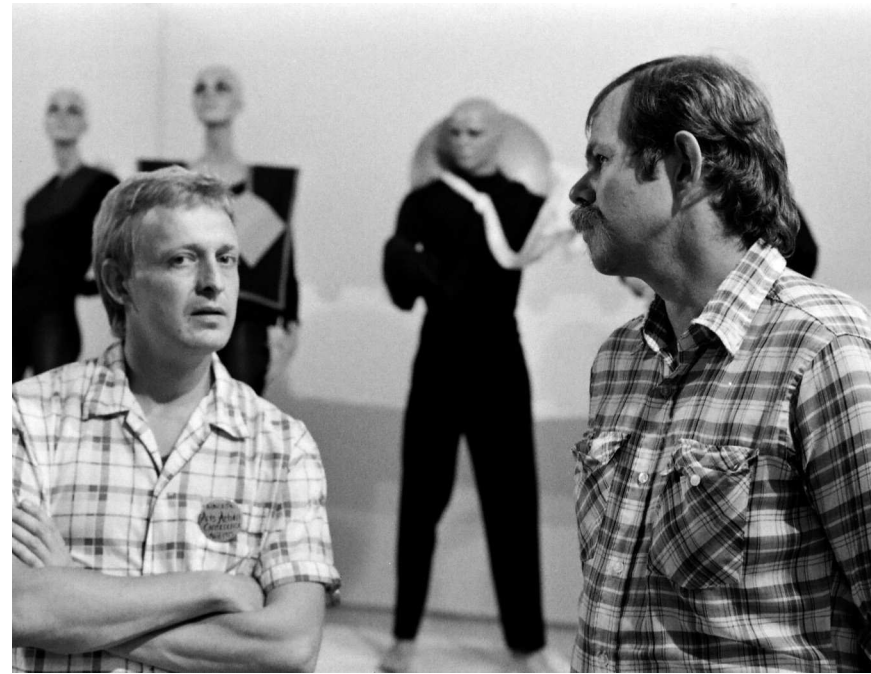


Chris Eade, Jackie, Birgitte Hansen, Jo Trehewie back on.

Frank Doyle, Dave Roach and Joy Longworth

Frank Doyle at the door to sculpture Hunter Street TAFE c1976

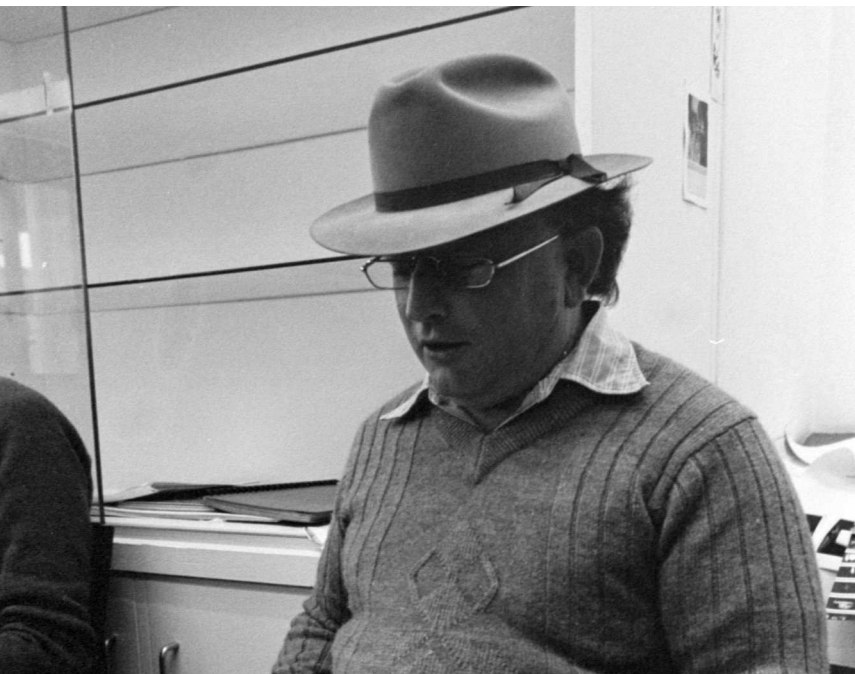
Chris and Jess Graham at Saltash c1978



Therese Kenyon and Dianne Beevers at Wood Street Gallery. Dianne's show opening  
Associate Diploma opening NCAE, Ron Morrison and Allan Chawner with students

Beth Parnerby at the Printmakers Workshop in Union Street.

Phil Wadsworth and Mark Hinderaker



Graham Gilchrist

Frank Celtlan

Chris Sanders at Smith Lakes camp with Kevin McDonald  
Illustration camp at Smith Lakes. Susan Ryman 5th on the right and Kevin  
McDonald 3rd from left.



Smith Lakes dunes



Back: L L to R. Unknown, Peter Singleton, Barry Sheppard, Gary Jones, Ron Morrison, Graham Gilchrist, Pam Sinnott, John McGrath, Trish Willson, Andrew Atkins  
Front: Allan Chawner, Vlase Nikoleski, Gordon Rintoul, Aldona Zakauraskas, Ken Leverson, Chris Sanders, Roger Broadbent



No Theory lecturers present at this art school meeting. It was at the end of the day and everyone looks happy to be finished.

Next page: The meeting was attended by Doug Huxley. So it must have been about amalgamation or our blown out budget







Ian Williams just in frame on the left. Video and film. Garry Sangster in the middle Dave Hawke there too.



Paul Fogo making adjustments to the VCR in the video department.



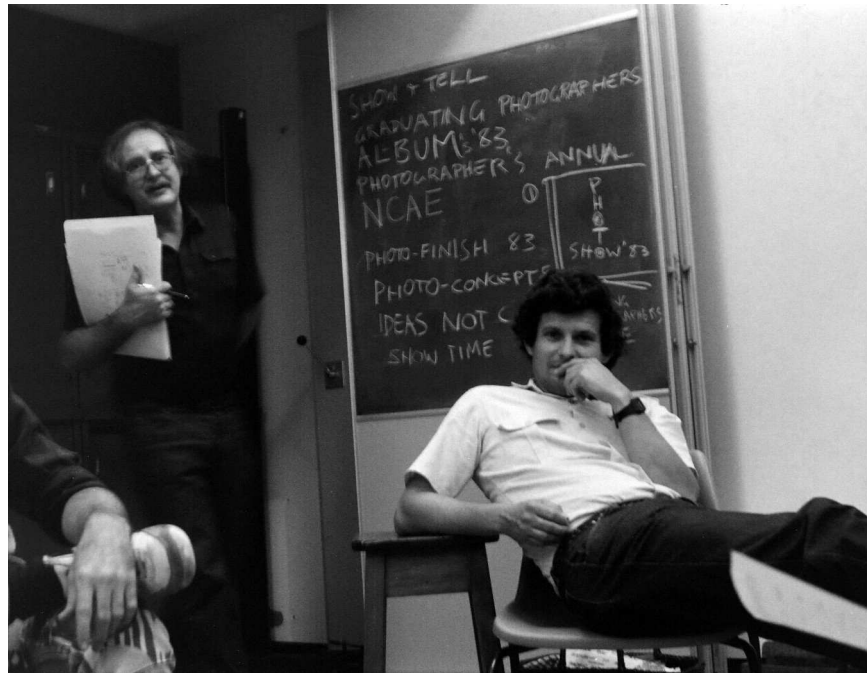
Ron Morrison teaching in C57 of the Hunter Building NCAE



Andrew Brown and Allan Chawner with Kerry Ryan on (experiential learning reference) or a site shoot with students at night in someone's backyard.



Ron Morrison, Leonie Riesberg and Allan Chawner with students Toni Shuker and Camilla Ray in C55.



Ron Morrison in class with the Graduate Diploma students, 1983 c55 Hunter Bld.

Cathy Brooker and Gary Laught

Carol Carter (reluctant to be photographed by Allan Chawner)

Ron Morrison and Gary Webber. Gary taught the Illustration photography class



Lianne Audrins, Toni Shuker (Technical Officers) with Allan in the darkroom

At a BBQ outside the Hunter bld.



Miranda Lawry at the same BBQ



Kathy Triffitt with Judy (the secretary) and Cathy Barcan with a tin can

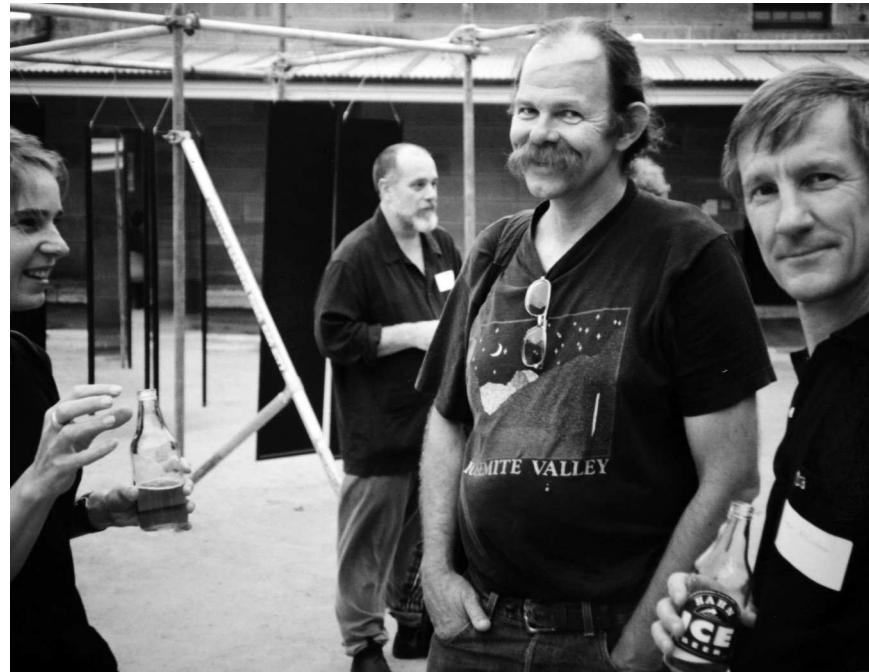
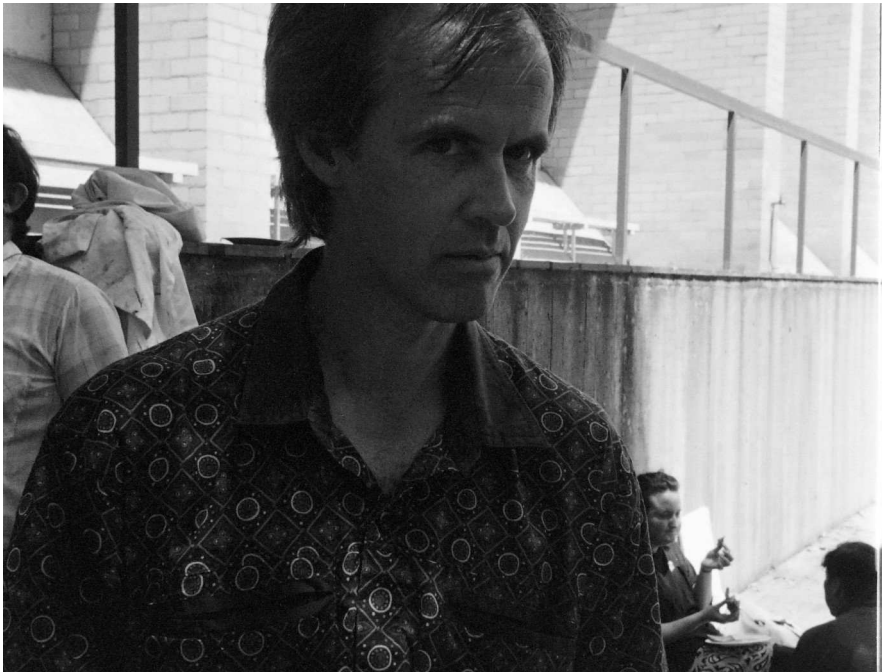


Leonie Reisberg

Allan at the BBQ



Glenn Birket as himself



Deborah Philips with Mark Hinderaker, Sydney College of the Arts



Aldona Zakauraskas with a student



Ron Morrison with Barry Sheppard

Next page: A meeting of the arts. I do not know why but we are in the gallery on Darby Street below the squash courts. c1984. David Langman with Jill Stowel in front right. Carol centre

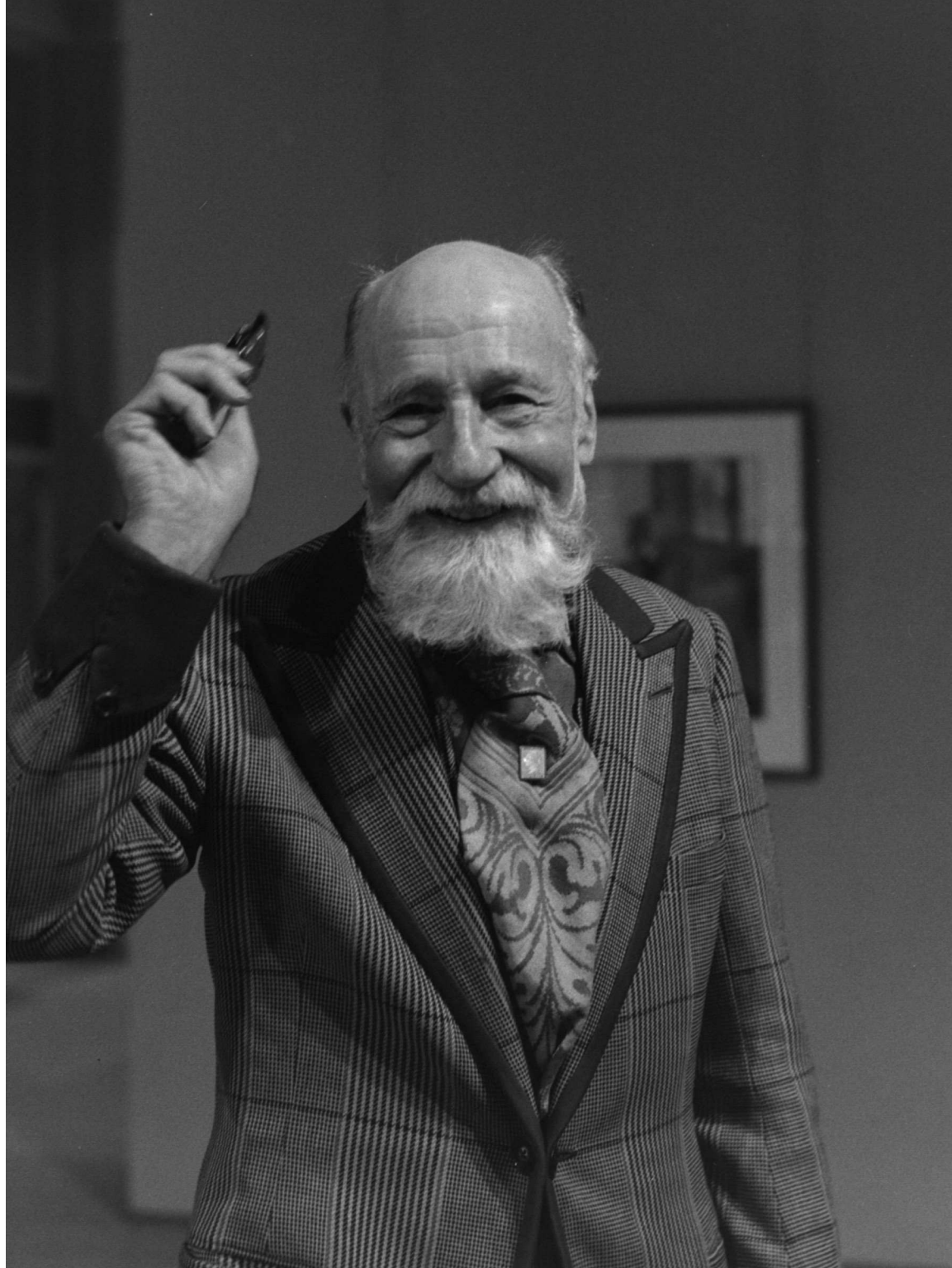


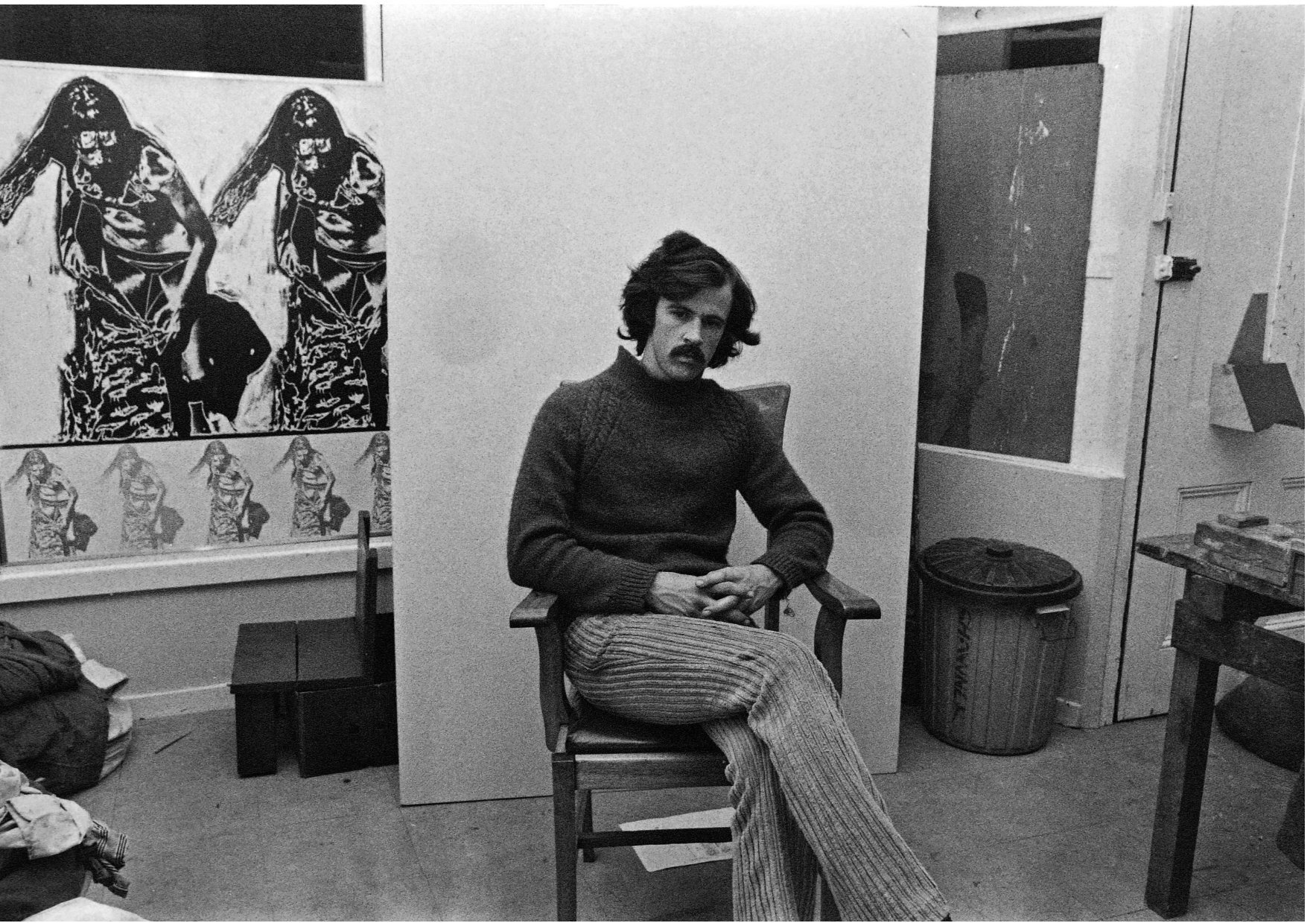




A wonderful artist and mentor, Jo Spence when she exhibited in the Tin Sheds, Sydney Uni, c1985

Next page: Angus McBean. A wonderful man and a great photographer. Newcastle Region Art Gallery c1977





Allan Chawner in the studio at Carrington c1976.



Allan in the darkroom at Carrington c1977. Fixing old cameras.



The sculpture room at TAFE Hunter Street c1975.







