

Former Maitland student Lillian Cassidy's design chosen to feature in exhibition

By Emma Swain Jan. 25, 2015, 6 p.m.

In a sea of elaborate ensembles and colourful couture the sleek yet simple work of Lillian Cassidy stands alone.

The former Maitland Grossmann High School student has been chosen to display her striking Japanese-inspired piece as part of an exhibition – at the Maitland's Museum of Clothing – showcasing the wares of 2014 HSC students.



Lillian Cassidy's Japanese-inspired design.

"My piece is inspired by contemporary Japanese designers and the images of silhouettes," Lillian, 17, of Ashtonfield, said.

“Japanese designers tend to use a lot of black and asymmetrical shapes and I’ve always been interested in different designs so I decided to go with something that wasn’t so much a costume.

“I wanted to create something I would wear.”

For the past two years Lillian has been the only student studying textile and designs at Maitland Grossmann High School and is now the only Maitland high school student chosen to show her creation in the exhibition.

“It is challenging to study by yourself with just the teacher but it has also been a very rewarding experience,” Lillian said.

The HSC exhibition is now on show at the museum located at Maitland Gaol.

View the online edition www.maitlandmercury.com.au/story/2838776/lillians-touch-of-japan-to-feature-in-exhibition

SCROLL DOWN FOR MORE

Great old fashion ...and the safari suit

By Emma Swain March 19, 2012, 10:34 p.m.



BRING BACK THE SAFARI SUIT: Nell Pyle from the Australian Museum of Clothing and Textiles.

The frivolity-free frocks of the 40s to the sexed up silhouettes of the 60s represent a change in fashion unlike any other.

On the one hand there was the war and, with it, a barrage of restrictions.

Almost two decades later, however, the colours were bright and the shifts were short.

“The mid 1940s to the 1960s represented a drastic change in fashion and it’s been very exciting to revisit,” Nell Pyle from the Australian Museum of Clothing and Textiles (AMCAT) said.

The museum has captured these changes in its latest exhibition From the Bomb to the Beatles.

“In the 1940s we had the National Council of Clothes Styling that regulated how much material you were allowed to have in hems and belts and how many buttons you could have on a dress, things like that,” Mrs Pyle said.

“Then, in the late '40s, Christian Dior produced a new look and suddenly there was plenty of material so they made use of it.”

As a reaction, in the 1960s, everything was short and bright.

“The '60s were quite fascinating because it was the beginning of the flower power era, the Vietnam war . . . it was quite revolutionary,” Mrs Pyle said.

Included in the exhibition is a 1940s metal-free handbag.

“Metal was required for the war effort so you weren't allowed to use metal for anything, zippers went out, the only jewellery allowed was a wedding ring,” she said.

But while it's mostly women's wear taking centre stage at the exhibition, men's fashion is not exempt –notably the safari suit of the 1950s.

“The safari suit was the most sensible outfit for the Australian climate,” Mrs Pyle said. “There were no ties, and a shirt that you could wear outside your trousers. Men should wear them again.”

From the Bomb to the Beatles is on display at Maitland Gaol until July.

View the online edition www.maitlandmercury.com.au/story/100407/great-old-fashion-and-the-safari-suit

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THE *Advertiser*

Shoes on display at Kurri Library

May 28, 2014, 8:30 a.m.



COLLECTION: Letitia Plume from the Australian Museum of Clothing and Textiles at the Kurri Library shoe display, which finishes this week.

Kurri Library is currently hosting a display of shoes from the Australian Museum of Clothing and Textiles (AMCAT).

The shoes, which cover the period from 1930 to 2000, are just a small part of the museum's extensive collection of clothing, footwear, accessories and textiles from 1860 to the present.

Letitia Plume from AMCAT said that most of the museum's items come from donations from groups and members of the public.

AMCAT is situated in the Lt. Governor's Residence at the main gate of historic Maitland Gaol and is open to the public every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The shoe display can be seen at Kurri Library until the end of May.

For more information on the museum, phone 0403 652 550.

View the online edition www.cessnockadvertiser.com.au/story/2310580/shoes-on-display-at-kurri-library

SCROLL DOWN FOR MORE

Museum curators tie up a new exhibition

By EMMA SWAIN Feb. 4, 2014, 4 a.m.



ON SHOW: Exhibition curator Sandy Earle with a Mr Bean tie.

Sections of the world's biggest tie, once wrapped around the neck of an iconic Croatian arena, have made their way to Maitland as part of the city's newly bequeathed tie collection.

The Tie Society of Australia has donated its entire collection to Maitland's Museum of Clothing and is one of only three of its kind in the world.

The museum – based at Maitland Gaol – is now home to more than 3000 ties including the scarlet red sections of the Croatian masterpiece and is preparing an exhibition to introduce the ties to the public.

“This is one of only three tie collections, of this size, in the world,” exhibition curator Sandy Earle said.

“There is also one in France and the biggest one is the Academia Cravatica in Croatia because the Croatians believe they invented the tie and that was their gift to the world.”

The museum also has 150 red ties cut from the world’s biggest tie to be sold as a fund-raiser for the exhibition.

“I’m interested in ties because they are quirky and people wear ties because they want to impress someone or to make a statement, it’s a really interesting thing and I think this exhibition will explore some of the more crazy elements of ties,” Ms Earle said.

Included in the Australian collection are ties featuring images of Mr Bean, a tie made from beads, bespoke ties and those made from wool and wood.

“This is a fun thing and it will give people something to smile about,” Ms Earle said.

A small tie display is now on show at East Maitland Library with a larger presentation All Tied Up planned for March 15 at the Museum of Clothing.

View the online edition www.maitlandmercury.com.au/story/2064000/museum-curators-tie-up-a-new-exhibition