

# Artists in Motion inspiring local artists

BY MEGAN HUFF  
COMMUNITY PRESS

**Marmora** – Soon after freelance artist Eilean Tait moved to Marmora, she made it known she would like to form a non-profit artists group.

“I was new to the town, so I put up the flyers, and then I stepped back for awhile,” she said.

Originally from Edinburgh, Scotland, Tait spent 27 years in Montreal before making her way to Marmora in 2006. Almost two years after posting the flyers, she met another artist “just by chance” working in the area, Christine Dominico.

The pair began a joint venture to promote arts and culture throughout Marmora, and so Artists in Motion was born, she said.

“It’s taken on a life of its own,” she said. “It’s been a tremendous amount of work so far, and we’re hoping to get lots of support.”

Currently, the group consists of about 18 members, and it’s already scheduled 10 events in Marmora for 2009.

Tait admitted she’s “taken aback by the enthusiasm of the group.”

In late 2008, the group hosted an art show at the Marmora town hall, and it was a “resounding success,” she said. This encouraged Artists in Motion to



■ Marmora artist Eilean Tait is being featured this month at the Stirling-Rawdon Public Library. Tait works primarily with pastel, pen and ink, and graphite, and focuses primarily on animal life in her art. She has been a freelance artist since 1984.

Photo by Megan Huff/Community Press host more artist-inspired events.

“I want to bring the arts to Marmora because I think it’s so important to keep

an open mind,” she said. “(Art) is what has changed the world over time, and made people think outside the box.”

Tait added that keeping arts in Marmora means that residents don’t have to travel to art shows far removed from the community. And by keeping arts in Marmora, through the promotion of events that are affordable, Tait hopes people will be attracted to move to the village.

Since the launch of Artists in Motion Tait said, the organization has begun work on a business plan and is currently applying for government grants to acquire a permanent building. As of now, all the events scheduled for the year are the result of “artists all donating their time and money.”

The events include a number of juried exhibitions as well as a literary contest in March, and the second annual Art in the Park in August. Richard Turtle will also perform his play, “Bury the Hangman,” early in May.

“We want to do a very professional job,” Tait said. “We encourage suggestions, and (people may) come to the meetings. The group meets every Thursday at 1 p.m. in the William Shannon room at the Marmora library.”

For more information about shows, meetings and how to become part of Artists in Motion, call Tait at 613-472-6585.

COMMUNITY PRESS  
5 FEB 2009  
PG-12