

The Newcastle HERALD

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LEAVING THEIR MARK: From left, Mark Penkola, Catherine Sneddon and Sharon Davson.

Artists sheet home message of peace

HUNDREDS of colourful handprints on white sheets dotted the lawn in Newcastle's East End yesterday to mark an inaugural day for world peace.

The four-hour celebration to 'give peace a hand' was held from noon. It was marked by a free concert on the Foreshore near the old carriage shed.

Newcastle artist and founder of '48 Hours to World Peace' Sharon Davson said she was delighted with the response and enthusiasm for the concept in the

weeks leading up to the event.

She said people working together could make a difference and 2001 was the start of the United Nations decade for a culture of peace.

Ms Davson said the theme of peace gave greater meaning to New Year's resolutions of greater harmony in the global village.

Scores of Hunter people enjoyed a family picnic day near the concert stage in the bright sunshine yesterday behind the

fabric-strewn lawn.

Major sponsors for the handprint extravaganza, concert and picnic included Newcastle City Council, Newcastle Permanent Building Society, Energy Australia, the Honeysuckle Development Corporation and the Newcastle and Hunter Business Chamber.

Honeysuckle general manager Angus Dawson said later the theme of people helping one another every day had obviously struck a chord with sponsors.