



GOULBURN & DISTRICT ART SOCIETY INC.

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NEWSLETTER

March 2017

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: THURSDAY, 6TH APRIL, 2017

11am at the Art Shed, at Men's Shed, Blackshaw Rd, Goulburn

Please note that this meeting is in the 1st week of April instead of the usual 2nd week due to a number of members unable to attend on the day before Easter.

THE PRESIDENT WRITES

We had a fantastic Rose Festival Exhibition thanks to all our members who helped hang all 128 paintings on Friday and then did duty over the weekend. We sold 13 paintings, which is the best we have ever done for this exhibition and we had many wonderful comments about the

great standard of work and how much they enjoyed the exhibition, it was fantastic to hear.

Once again thank you, for all the hard work in making this a very successful exhibition for the Art Society.

Happy Painting! Helen De Jonge, President

FROM THE EDITOR

I wish to thank **Karin & Ron Bowler of Ozartfinder** for the free advertising they do for the GDAS on their website. The website address is <http://www.ozartfinder.com>. Karin and Ron live in Melbourne and started Ozartfinder a couple of years ago. During this time it has grown considerably with many contributing artists. I strongly recommend to our members that you visit the website and consider submitting works to it as it opens up further opportunities for you to exhibit and to sell your works. All the details are on the Ozartfinder website.

Entered a competition? Visited an exhibition? Taken a holiday? Been on a workshop? Anything else that has happened? Write a little about it and send it to me for the newsletter please. Thanks to members who have either contributed items or told me of happenings.

Please remember that we need a volunteer to do the newsletter for June, July and August. *Alex Mortensen*

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

It's always a pleasure to add names to this section. We hope that the following new members take every opportunity to participate in our meetings, Thursday painting days, other activities and exhibitions: Grace Beer, our first interstate member, Lynne Flemons, Kate Bohlscheid and Lauren Fahey.

OUR SYMPATHY

Our sincere sympathies are extended to our dear member, Aina Atkins, whose mother passed away on 15th February at her home in Malaysia. Aina flew back to Malaysia for the funeral and to be with her family.

AROUND THE TRAPS

Congratulations to our member, Stavros Papantoniou, on winning third prize in Gallery on Track's Elemental competition. Some of our members entered works in the Goulburn Show: Stavros won a 1st and 2nd prize as well as People's Choice, Rhonda Garner won a 1st and a 2nd in drawings and Lesley Whitten won 1st in portraits and 2nd in abstracts. Congratulations to each of you. At our March meeting we decided that as many members as possible should enter the Goulburn Show next year.

Congratulations to Lesley and Alan Whitten on their 50th, yes 50th, wedding anniversary.

Helen, Lesley and Julia took a trip to Canberra to view the Bald Archies and recommend it to other members to visit.

The Whittens and the Mortensens had a sad loss in this past month with the passing on of their much loved and faithful pet companions – a lovely little dog and a beautiful cat respectively.

We were told that our member, Sue Officer, had the dreadful experience of being struck by lightning at her home. Our thoughts are with you, Sue, and we trust that you have fully recovered.

THE ROSE FESTIVAL EXHIBITION

11TH AND 12TH MARCH, 2017

Thank you to all the members who helped to set up on Friday as it makes the job easier. We hung 128 paintings entered by 27 members as well as Julia's ceramics and several members' cards. It was gratifying to see publicity on Channel 7 with our art exhibition appearing on the text at the bottom of the screen. Saturday was a fantastic day with numerous visitors and twelve paintings sold. Sunday saw less sales with only one painting being sold. However the total sales were very good: 13 paintings plus 5 ceramics, 15 cards and one print. Congratulations to all those who sold and of course to the buyers who are now the owners of some valuable works of art.

As always, our sincere appreciation is extended to the Goulburn Soldiers Club for their support in making the Belmore Room available for our exhibition.

The people's choice for the "Best in Show" was awarded to Helen De Jonge for her painting, *The Gate*. There was a tie between Lesley Whitten and Stavros Papantoniou for the People's Choice Artist with the most number of votes over all their paintings. Congratulations to all three of you. The number of People's Choice slips submitted was 253 so based on this figure we can say there were between 250 and 300 visitors to the exhibition.

The raffle: there were 182 tickets sold and the lucky winner was Mrs Bradley, Belmore St, Goulburn who collected her prize straight after the raffle was drawn.

Numerous complimentary comments were written in our visitors' book. Some of them were:

Brilliant exhibition! (Deputy Mayor, Alfie Walker)

Beautiful – fabulous mix of media and subject.

Very impressive.

Thoroughly enjoyable, worth the drive from Canberra.

Congratulations – a success as always. Tags would be easier to read above or on the side of paintings.

It is the second year in a row that the whole family has come for nan's birthday. We love it!

Members can collect their People's Choice slips from the Art Shed. They are on the bookshelf. You can see how many votes you were given for your works.

A number of photos of the exhibition can be seen on the following pages.

Photographs from the Rose Festival Art Exhibition. (photos by Ekaterina Mortensen on her iPhone)





WORKSHOPS

Workshop planning is well under way.

To reserve your place and to find out more details for any workshop, phone Helen De Jonge 4829 2300.

APRIL, 1st and 2nd Chan Dissanayake, (Guest artist): **Watercolours** for intermediate and advanced levels. Venue at the Goulburn Mulwaree Council Chambers. Fee: Members \$80; non-members \$90. Chan is a well-known ACT artist. He has conducted a number of workshops with us and is highly respected by our membership.

MAY, 13th. Aina Atkins, (GDAS member): **Watercolours** for intermediate level. Fee: Members \$10, non-members \$30. Aina has run quite a number of very successful workshops for our art society.

JUNE, 3rd. Marion Schumacher, (GDAS member): **Acrylics** for beginners, intermediate and advanced levels. Fee: to be advised. Marion has run many a great workshop for us.

AUGUST, (date to be advised) **Helen De Jonge**, (GDAS member): **Pen & Wash** for beginners and intermediate levels. Fee: Members \$10; non-members \$30. Helen has much to offer to participants and has run a number of very popular workshops.

SEPTEMBER, 16th. Nell Anderson: Watercolour farmyard animals. Nell is a well-known Canberra watercolour artist and has done a number of workshops for our society.

OCTOBER (late) or **NOVEMBER** (early) (precise date to be advised). **Helen Cottle**, (Guest artist): Helen is a very well known Victorian artist and will be very welcome here for a two-day workshop. Details will be provided once we have them.

ENTERING GDAS ANNUAL EXHIBITION

A NEW RULE & A NEW SECTION

As from the 1st January , 2017 all exhibitors must have been members of the Goulburn & District Art Society for a minimum of **3 months** to benefit from reduced entry fees in our Annual Exhibition.

We have decided to have a **new section – Miniatures**. The miniature painting, in **any medium**, is not to exceed 10x10cms (100 sq cms) and the frame is not to exceed 30x30cms (900 sq cms). Prizes are: 1st \$250, 2nd \$50.

The annual exhibition, **The Goulburn Workers Art Prize**, will be held at the Goulburn Workers Club on **13th, 14th and 15th October, 2017**. It's a good idea to start planning for it now and to mention it to artist friends in other towns, cities and states.

AGM, 2017

Our annual general meeting will be held in July of this year. The precise date will be advised later.

A NEW SKETCH CLUB

Coralie Vernon invites interested people to participate in her sketch club at the Goulburn Library on Thursdays 4.30 – 5.45pm. Starts on Thursday 6th April.

EXHIBITIONS

THE MAGIC OF COLOURS

Our member, Siva Nathan, invites you to his exhibition at Ginninderra School House Gallery, Sweet Copper Cafe, ACT. Open 1st March to 30th April.

The **Bowral & District Art Society (BDAS)** has a number of interesting art exhibitions coming up. You can see details at <http://www.bdasgallery.com/whatson>

All Things Great are Small an exhibition of miniature paintings at the Bowral Old Town Hall, Bendooley St. 5th – 7th May.

MY “CHARLES REID WATERCOLOURS” EXPERIENCE

Contributed by Trish McNamara (Part 2 – continued from February newsletter)

We spent the second week in Aix en Provence that is a much larger city. We stayed at a five star hotel called Hotel le Pignonnet from where Cezanne apparently painted the famous Mont Sainte- Victoire over fifty times. I think all of us had visited the bottom of the garden within the first twenty-four hours to see the view that had been a favourite of his, and hopefully have some of it rub off! Picasso is also buried near Mont Sainte-Victoire. From Aix we had day trips to St Remy where Van Gogh had spent some time recovering at the asylum (and produced his most prolific works), Avignon and Les Baux. Spectacular scenery and endless inspiration for painting.

The Charles Reid tour was my first experience of en plein air painting and I am sold! Luckily I followed instructions to prepare well and took all my materials with me. I researched a new portable metal easel that was light-weight and easy to transport and assemble, and I practiced before I left Australia. My brothers and sisters had given me a beautiful suitcase for my birthday in anticipation of my travels and the only thing I would change is the size – a little taller and I could have put my easel inside my case which would have been easier. A lot of the others had theirs separately too but those who had bigger bags definitely had less to handle. We painted on watercolour blocks which I had never used, but they were great. I had bought really good quality blocks and that paid off. I used Windsor and Newton pans in a small handheld case with a thumb ring and carried my brushes in a brush roll. There are lots of water containers on the market but I found the most useful method to be a plastic peanut butter jar with a lid around which I tied some baling twine. This then hung on one of the hooks on the easel and if I needed to move, I just tightened the lid. A water bottle held my clean water for top ups. I had an old hand towel hanging on the other hook. Another useful accessory was my famous brolly. Charles Reid in his notes said we'd need a brolly to shade our work (I now understand why!) and recommended an American brand. I managed to find an Australian one that was extremely reasonable and arrived from Victoria two days after ordering. It was also the right size and I packaged it with my easel for travelling. It is called a Sportbrella or Versabrella and has a clamp with three joints for positioning. Awesome! Navy blue on the outside and silver lined. Very stable in combination with my easel. They are available from eBay but much cheaper direct from the supplier.

My trip was full of lovely surprises and one of those was painting en plein air in public. As a group of artists, we were pretty obvious but what I hadn't bargained on was the enthusiasm of other tourists who would come and look at our work. They were all very respectful and would stand quietly watching, not wanting to disturb us. They didn't usually say anything until we spoke to them. One couple actually stood there watching me and my blank page for ages before I realised, and I turned to them and said “I'll be a while – I'm still thinking” – at which point they smiled and moved on to somebody else. At Palais des Papes at Avignon I decided to try painting some larger figures and I picked out a couple sitting at a cafe. The lady had a black and white dress on but I changed it in my painting to red. Close to the end, I looked up and they

were gone! Oh dear. Then discovered they had walked up and were having a look. The lady (Jacky) then very excitedly said "That's me!" as she recognised herself. She was delighted but me more so because it was actually recognisable as a human being! The only problem was that they had moved and I hadn't finished. So they very kindly obliged and returned to their seats and I took a photo. Jacky came back and wrote her contact details in my sketch book and I later finished the painting. She will get it in the mail soon. I had some really lovely encounters painting in public.

The overwhelming benefit of doing an art tour was meeting so many wonderful people – fellow artists of all levels who shared a common interest. Everybody helped each other and there was a lot of encouragement and camaraderie. Most nights we dined out together and that was a lot of fun. At the end of the trip, one guy had put together a video of three-second films he'd taken during the trip and put it to music, and it was fantastic. I wrote a six page bush poem and everybody enjoyed that. Another has been inspired to include text in his paintings – he has started writing his thoughts as he is painting. One lady set up a Facebook page for us all and we have been having fun sharing photos. A lot have been very busy at their easels since the trip and have posted photos of their work.

The Charles Reid tour has been a wonderful experience for me in so many ways. My work improved as we went along, and I have made some very special new friends. On arriving home I found a flyer in the mail – "Travelrite Art Tours 2017". Watch this space!

THURSDAY PAINTING DAYS

Members and guests are welcome to our Thursday painting days at the Art Shed. It is a time to paint with other members, get advice from each other and even just to socialize. New members who are beginners may like to get the benefit of drawing and painting with more experienced members. There are no lessons but you can always watch others paint, pick up ideas and get free advice.

SAVE POSTAGE COSTS

Postage is ever more expensive. It saves art society funds if you receive the newsletter by email rather than by snail mail. If you haven't already provided Lesley with your email address would you please do so to have your name added to the email contacts. Emailed newsletters are more environmentally friendly.

OUR FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE

Don't forget we also have other media outlets: our Facebook page that is ably administrated by Patricia Mueller. You can always send information to Patricia through our GDAS email address.

Our website, administered by Ekaterina Mortensen, has past newsletters, workshop reports, exhibitions, forms and so on. Remember it provides an opportunity for members to advertise their art – do this by emailing photos (to a maximum of 400kbs in JPEG) of your art to Ekaterina apmkisa@hotmail.com or bring them on a stick to the art shed.

OUR REGULAR SPONSORS

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