



GDAS NEWS

PO Box 71 Goulburn NSW 2580 ~ www.artsociety.goulburn.net.au ~ goulburnartsociety@gmail.com

Next Meeting

Thursday

14th January, 2021

11am

at the Art Studio

Cnr Combermere & Bourke Sts
Goulburn

GOULBURN & DISTRICT ART SOCIETY INC.

PO Box 71, Goulburn NSW 2580

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[www.facebook.com/
goulburnanddistrictartsociety](https://www.facebook.com/goulburnanddistrictartsociety)

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Greta Fennamore



GDAS wall signs were put up on 29th October 2020.
Photo by Katya Mortensen.

PRESIDENT WRITES

Hello Everyone,

It is the end of a very strange and horrible year. We had our last meeting for the year until next January. There are still more activities to come through with the BBQ at Mitre 10 this weekend; please come along and help if you can. On the 5th December there is life drawing at the studio and then our Christmas Party at the Workers Club from 12.30.

As we can only have 30 people on the Deck, it is important that you let me know if you are coming; do it early so you don't miss out. Of course we will still be having Thursday painting days into December.

I would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and hopefully a much better 2021.

Keep safe and happy painting

Helen

BBQ FUND RAISER

MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO VOLUNTEER TO ASSIST AT OUR BBQ

● **WHERE:** Mitre 10, Sloane St

● **WHEN:** Saturday 21 November, 2020 10am-2pm

● **WEAR A FACE MASK AND GLOVES!**

● **Please contact Helen to tell her that you can assist.
4829 2300**

**TELL
YOUR
FRIENDS!**

FROM THE EDITOR

The November meeting was well attended and covered a number of important issues. After reading and hearing more about the proposal of an online exhibition/sale and new website it was decided to not go ahead with it at this stage and review the idea later next year. There was much discussion about membership drive and fund raiser ideas such as free art workshops for seniors and seeking use of a vacant shop in Auburn Street. These will be further discussed early next year. The possible occasional use of The Art Studio by a photography group was also discussed. It was again advocated to members to join Ozart Finder where they can display and sell their work. It is free to join. Ozart Finder sponsors the GDAS by advertising our events. Helen was going to book us in for our Xmas lunch at the Workers Club. Thank you, Irene and Amanda for your submissions. Editor, Alex

SHOALHAVEN ART SOCIETY

**Exhibition "Meandering
through the Landscape"**
by Vivien Tanner
Sat 10 Oct - Sat 05 Dec
Access Gallery, Nowra

Shoalhaven based artist Vivien Tanner is widely recognised for her award winning paintings of picturesque landscapes.

This exhibition investigates another important element of her practice, abstracted explorations of landscape and form which aim to capture the true essence of a scene.



XMAS LUNCH



Saturday 5th November, 12.30pm
at the Workers Club, at the Deck

GDAS Members and partners are invited.
The GDAS pays for your lunch but you pay for your own beverages.
Maximum allowed on The Deck by the Workers Club is 30 people.
Please contact Helen on 4829 2300
First in, first served. We hope to see as many as possible there.

LIFE DRAWING

It was most disappointing to cancel our planned Life Drawing at the last moment before the November session. It was to be the reinstitution of our regular monthly sessions. Circumstances were beyond our control however. Firstly our model emailed me on the Friday to tell me he had injured his back and secondly, according to the forecast, it was going to be too cold in The Art Studio. We hope our model's back is better now. As for the cold, until the Goulburn Mulwaree Council finally tells us to go ahead with the erection of our partition wall so we can then install air conditioning, this will be an on-going problem. It is now nearly 2 years since we moved in and we are still unable to fully utilise our premises due to the cold in winter and to some extent, the heat in summer.



We intend to go ahead with our Life Drawing Sessions in the coming months and are keeping our fingers crossed that Council will tell us to erect the partition so we may finally be able to properly use our studio.

Our Life Drawing calendar

Saturday December 5th - Earlier start and finish 9am to 12pm. Female model – a new one from Benalla provided travel is allowed. This will start at 9am and end at 12 because we then go to the Workers Club for our GDAS Xmas lunch. So please note this change in time.

January 30th - Female model from Melbourne. NB this session is in lieu of first Saturday in February as our model will be here that weekend.

March 6 - Male model from Canberra (we had him here early 2020)

March 27 - Female model (another new one). NB this is in lieu of April as first Saturday is in Easter.

ASOC SPRING EXHIBITION

Art Society of Canberra's Spring exhibition at the Fitters Workshop, Wentworth Ave, Kingston, ACT until Sunday 22nd November. It's next to the Bus Depot Markets. This is a great event with 286 artworks on display – there is something for everyone and is well worth visiting. Over \$13,000 of art works and \$1,300 of unframed works and cards have been sold in the first weekend. Incredible! Congratulations ASOC on your successful exhibition.

2020 ART ON THE RANGE EXHIBITION

On behalf of the President and Committee of the Crookwell Art Gallery we are excited to bring you news of the Art On the Range show to be held in the Memorial Hall, Crookwell on 4-6 December 2020.

Strict Covid regulations will be observed.

OPENING NIGHT - Friday 4th December 5.30pm - 7.30pm.
All welcome.

We are lucky to have Brad Hammond, Director of the Orange Regional Art Gallery, to officially open the exhibition.

Admission is \$2 with Covid safe drinks & nibbles.

Weekend opening hours: Saturday 5th December 10am-4pm and Sunday 6th December 10am-3pm.

There will be 2 prizes awarded this year: \$500 for BEST IN SHOW, judged by Brad Hammond, \$100 for PEOPLE'S CHOICE, voted by public.

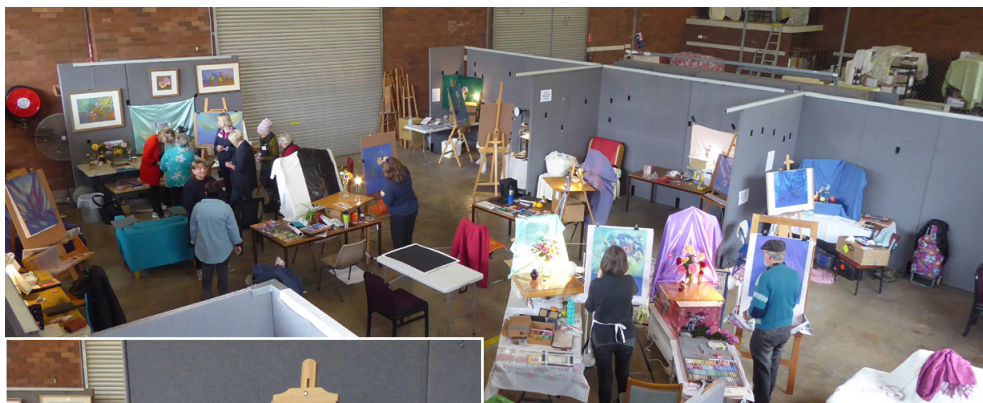
Entry Forms: www.crookwellartgallery.com

The exhibition will be videoed and available on You Tube via the Gallery's website and Facebook www.crookwellartgallery.com on Saturday.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

At the November meeting, the committee was very pleased to approve the membership applications of 3 new members: Erica Dawes, Grace Paleg and Pam Hume.

It is always a very pleasant feeling that we all have when we are presented with the applications and then approving them. We trust you will all be active members of the GDAS and participating whenever you can do so. We do appreciate the fact that a couple of you have a long distance to travel and therefore cannot attend very often, but we are sure you will have some valuable inputs from time to time.



PASTEL WORKSHOP REPORT

Well, as to be expected, it was quite a challenge for all of us who attended Grace Paleg's workshop in The Art Studio.

We had to arrange our own still life with whatever items we brought and some of us came to realize that we had created a very difficult task for ourselves. Never too late to learn, however, as we would make a much more simple arrangement on a future occasion.

Once we were set up, Grace embarked us on our journey of the use of pastels by taking us through

just a few steps at the time – never too many – in her demonstrations. Of course, as is usual with highly skilled artists, Grace made it look so easy as she selected and used pastel pencils to mark in some outlines and then just the right colour and tone pastel for each touch to the paper. Work from back to front, from dark to light, she stressed as she applied the background. The use of her hand and fingers was stressed as she spread pastel across the paper. It was only much later when she was emphasising particular features that she applied pastels directly to the paper.

Position of her feet was another important element – and no, she wasn't painting with her feet. She was very particular about exactly where she stood so that she could have a clear view of her still life arrangement and from there take a step forward to apply pastel to paper and then step back to the viewing position. It actually provides one with a bit of exercise, too.

At the beginning of the workshop, there were a couple of comments that we might finish the painting before the two days were up, but we soon realized that would not be the case. Except! Except for Julia who could be there for only one day. She astounded us by not only completing her job by the end of Saturday but producing a very good work of art. Congrat's Julia – and this was mentioned at the monthly meeting.

While a number of the participants were gaining obviously great success with their work, a couple of us were rather disappointed with what we achieved – not for the want of good teaching and individual advice from Grace. More simple arrangements would have been far better.

I'd like to make special mention of Amanda Zurek's work – partly, I suppose, because it was in my line of sight so much, but mainly because I considered it a wonderful pastel still life.

The photos show the level of success achieved and certainly some have work that they must be very proud of. Thank you, Scott, Grace's friend who took a number of the photos in the weekend. Thank you Grace, for sharing your wonderful expertise with us followed by your joining of our art society.

Alex

PHOTOS FROM GRACE PALEG'S PASTEL WORKSHOP



PERFORMANCE ART

*In the October issue we had an article about **performance art** along with an invitation to members and readers to offer their opinions on this type of art. Having received no response I thought I would do so and refer to ones with audience participation.*

Definition: An art form that combines visual art with dramatic performance.
(Oxford Languages)

If we look at just two examples of Marina Abramović's performances we range through extremes from "The Artist is Present" (2010) to "Rhythm O" (1974).

"The Artist is Present", 2010

"This is one of the most famous and often mentioned performances (along with Rhythm 0), preparation for which took weeks. The duration of the performance itself often varied. For example, in MOMA, it lasted 2 months and included 1500 participants and Abramović herself, who managed to physically bear it only because she was allowed to sleep at night. Visitors had to look into the artist's eyes. Here she is, sitting opposite — and everyone has a few minutes to touch the creator's inner world. In this setting, the opposite side can plunge into (as well as abstain from) silently sharing emotions with their vis-a-vis."*

From what I have read it was extremely exhausting and she repeated it in a number of countries including the USSR.

Reflections: What would you think of if you were staring into her eyes? Do you think that you may have seen into Marina's soul? Do you think she may have known what you were thinking? Do you imagine that any of the participants gained anything from this experience?

"Rhythm O", 1974, Studio Morra, Naples.

"Abramović put on the table 72 objects including rose, a knife, a loaded gun, scissors, a whip, a flashlight, grapes, bread, apples and a black hat. Any of these objects could be used both to please Abramović, who was standing there still, and to hurt her.

Of course, there were also items for neutral purposes, but the public was interested neither in them nor in the objects intended for bringing pleasure. As soon as people realized that they could use the provided objects in any way they desired and remain unpunished, they gave up control and discovered their real wild side. The description of this performance is often cited in times of social cataclysms associated with the power and influence of the crowd. She stood motionless for six hours, even though she had been cut and nearly shot. After 6 hours, she moved towards the exit and the audience, being afraid that she could strike back. Then she came into the hotel room and saw her first strand of white hair."*

Reflections: Can you imagine what you may have done if you had been one of the participants in Marina's Rhythm O performance? Would you have done anything? Would you do a harmful thing to her or would you do some gentle thing? Do you think she should have allowed people to do any of these things? Would you go to such performance? Would you have done nothing and perhaps just walked away? Can you give reasons for your answers?

There are many other performance artists who cover a huge variety within their art forms and you can easily look them up on the internet.

Isn't it confronting?

Alex

*Source: https://archive.com/publications/3518~12_worldfamous_live_art_performances_by_Marina_Abramovi Accessed Nov 13, 2020.



Marina Abramović. "The Artist is Present", 2010.
Source: theartnewspaper.ru



Marina Abramović. "Rhythm O", 1974. Source: theartnewspaper.ru

WORKSHOP: DRAWING PORTRAITS WITH EKATERINA MORTENSEN

A successful day was had with the attendance of eight GDAS members who participated in Katya's portrait workshop on Saturday the 14th November, which was held at the Art Studio from 10.00am – 4.00pm.

We all came prepared and ready to learn the fine art of portrait sketching and painting. Katya educated us all on the foundations and principles of portraiture, outlining the basic proportions of the face and skull, which was to be considered as a whole voluminous object. We were presented with the spatial relationships of facial features and their shadows, and how the attention to these details need to be of particular importance when our aim is to capture a likeness of someone.

It was encouraging to see everyone dedicate themselves to a such a subject of discipline. Perseverance and Katya's support was key when it came to allowing our mistakes to guide us through to better observational draughting decisions.

Our final portrait of the day was done with watercolour. We all put our draughting skills to work and then began to render our images with paint. Part of our watercolour tuition was to study the gradations of colour and value, which help to form the facial contours and features.



It was a very productive day, with everyone achieving three different portrait studies in various media; graphite, charcoal and watercolour.

I was able to take away some very helpful elements and tips of facial construction that will certainly contribute to improving my future portrait sketching efforts, as I am sure did all members that participated.

On behalf of everyone who attended the workshop, we would once again, like to extend a big thank you to Katya for her time, expertise, dedication and patience, which enabled everyone to grasp a better understanding of the dynamics of draughting and rendering portraits.

Well done Katya. Hope to see some more workshops that build on the 'act of seeing' when constructing portraits, and watercolour techniques.

Here are a few encouraging quotes from Andrew Loomis (1892 – 1959), American illustrator, author, and art instructor.

"Since the knowledge is available, why try to struggle along without it? The difficulties of not knowing are always much greater than the effort of learning."

"To learn to draw is to draw and draw and draw"

"Observation and study are necessary to achieve mastery of light and form"

Amanda Zurek



VIRTUAL HOLIDAY

AN EXHIBITION BY THE ARTISTS SOCIETY OF CANBERRA

4 December 2020 – 4 January 2021

10am – 5pm

Magpie Room, Dirty Jane's
80 Collie St, Fyshwick (behind Domayne)

dirty
janes
CANBERRA



www.asoc.net.au

The Artists Society of Canberra is running a series of exhibitions in the Magpie Room at Dirty Janes. VIRTUAL HOLIDAY is our third and will be followed by monthly exhibitions in 2021.

LIFE DRAWING

5 DECEMBER
9AM - 12PM

NEW FEMALE MODEL
PLEASE CONTACT ALEX
TO SAY YOU ARE
COMING

alexgamort@gmail.com

OUR SPONSORS

The GDAS has numerous sponsors who give us a variety of forms of sponsorship that is of great assistance to the running of our organisation. We thank them all.



THE WORKERS SPORTS COUNCIL



www.ozartfinder.com



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DENTIST**



Goulburn Post



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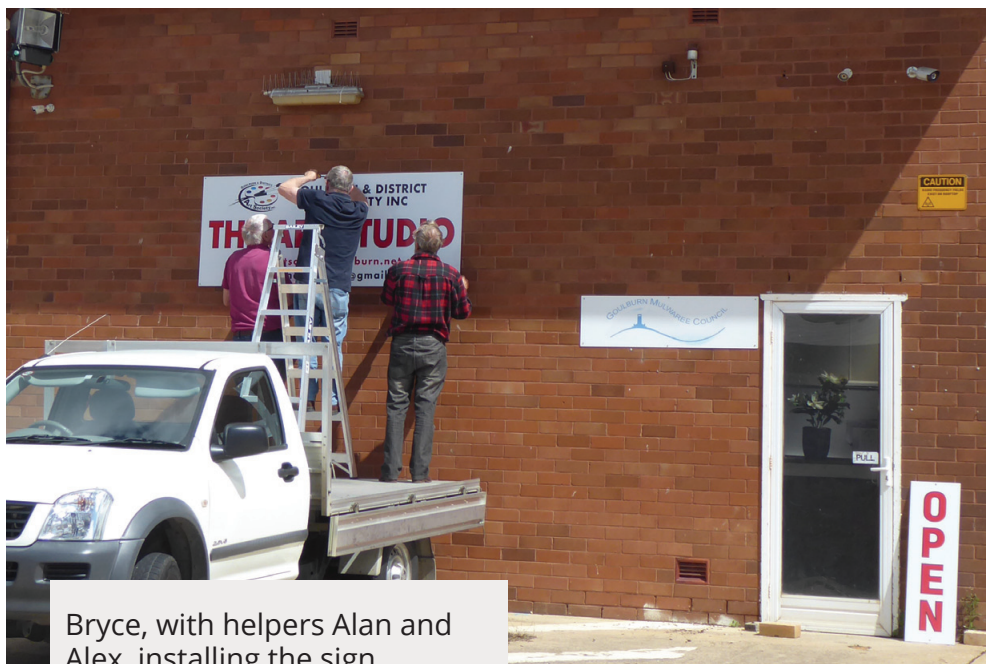
Irene, our subscriber from down south, is our most regular submitter of art works. Congratulations on winning the prize for achieving this, Irene.

The prize is our congratulations and the invitation to submit more art!

Thank you so much for your contributions to our newsletter.



Irene Ioannou. Tourist track going into Adelong. Pastel.



Bryce, with helpers Alan and Alex, installing the sign.



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