



ALBURY - WODONGA  
ARTISTS SOCIETY


# NEWSLETTER

PAINTBOX STUDIO/GALLERY  
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NOVEMBER 2015

## Dates for your Calendar!

<b>Regular Groups</b>		
Every Tuesday	Oils – 10am – 4pm ( and others)	Co-Ordinator: Kata Kupresak
Sat 7 November	Life Drawing 1 – 4pm	Co-ordinator: Clive Vogel
Sat 14 November	Acrylic Group 10am – 4pm	Co-ordinator: Nancy Robinson
Sat 21 November	Portraits – 1 – 4pm	Co-ordinator: Elsie Reitenbach
Sat 28 November	Pastels – 10am to 4pm	Co-ordinator: Kathy Bruce
<b>Meetings</b>		
Wed 18 November	Committee Meeting 8.30am	Secretary: Therese Davis
Sunday 21 February	General Meeting 2.00pm	Secretary: Therese Davis
<b>Workshops</b>		
None		
<b>Other</b>		
 Christmas Party	Wed 2 December 5.30pm – 7.30pm at the Wodonga Plant Farm (nibbles and drinks)	Co-ordinator: Heather Sparks

For information on how to contact co-ordinators or Secretary, refer to the list at the end of this newsletter.

## A Word from our President

Taking on a new role such as this is always a steep learning curve, but hopefully the new team will transition into our new positions as quickly and seamlessly as possible. Firstly, I would like to thank outgoing President Christina and her team for all their hard work in the past year, and I welcome the new team:

President – Barb Strand  
Vice President – Heather Sparks  
Secretary – Therese Davis  
Treasurer – Linda McMaster

Other Committee Members - Judy Balfour, Rob Rhodes, Rod Farr.  
Public Officers – Nonie McClelland for N.S.W; Rob Rhodes for Victoria.

There are also some new faces amongst our Studio Session and Workshop Coordinators:

PORTRAITS – Elsie Reitenbach

WATER COLOURS – Jenny Wallace

ACRYLICS – Nancy Robinson

OILS – Kata Kupresak

PASTELS – Kathy Bruce

LIFE DRAWING – Clive Vogel will continue until end of January 2016, following which a new coordinator will be appointed.

As a group, the coordinators will be getting together in the near future to plan our 2016 workshop schedule. Certainly, we are intending to fit in a number of workshops this year, and I urge you to support these as they are a mainstay of our financial position. We are hoping to attract some great tutors again this year – watch this space....

Thank you to Christina and Heather who again will ably lead our hanging teams this year. They have already been busy working out our exhibition themes for the next year, and the final lists for each location will be published in the next newsletter. The Hanging Teams this year are as follows:

#### **Wodonga Plant Farm Garden Gallery Café**

Co-ordinator: Heather Sparks assisted by Nancy Robinson, Nonie McClelland and Heather Green.

#### **AWAS Studio**

Co-ordinator: Christina Zey assisted by Kathy Bruce and Tanya Healy.

Other positions were filled as follows:

Newsletter – Judy Balfour

Website – Barb Strand

Rosters and studio – Heather Green

Library – Judy Balfour

Membership List/Keys – Janelle Hoban.

***Unfortunately, we still have a vacant Publicity Officer position, and it would be great if someone might be able to help out with this role. Please let me know if you are at all able to help....***

As indicated at the Annual General Meeting, general meetings will be moving to every second month, with the committee meeting on alternate months to handle day to day business. There will be no general meeting in December, instead we will all be gathering for **our Christmas Party** on Wednesday 2 December 2015 at the Wodonga Plant Farm. I hope you can join us....

Our exhibition at MAMA is approaching rapidly, and I urge **all** our members to participate in this great opportunity to showcase our society. There is more information about this exhibition later in this newsletter. So please don't feel intimidated by the location, or by the theme. This is really about showing people what we are about – a society for all artists – young and old, able and not so able, experienced and not so experienced. Perhaps you might just be interested in doing a small painting for the icons, this would be great as we would love to see as many of our members participate as possible, thus showing a true representation of our work.

Barb Strand

## Members News

Just a reminder to all members that annual membership fees are now due. Payments can be made directly to our bank account, or to our Treasurer. Annual renewal forms need to be completed, and these are available at the studio or on the AWAS web-site.

We have had quite a few new members join our ranks recently. Unfortunately we cannot name you at present as we are in the midst of committee changeover and the information is not readily available, but you are genuinely most welcome. Early in the New Year we will have a 'meet and greet' afternoon tea and we will then get to know you all.

Two of our new members have taken up AWAS positions and so a warm welcome and thank you to Therese Davis as Secretary and also Kata Kupresak as co-ordinator for oil painting.

## Spotlight On.....

### *Alison Percy*

Congratulations to AWAS member Alison Percy who has recently found herself in the spotlight in two publications. Many of you will probably have seen the article about her successful solo exhibition "From Life: the figure", which was held at Gigs, and featured in the Border Mail earlier this year. More recently, she was also the subject of an article in the national art magazine Art/Edit (Jul/Sep 2015), in which



Pictures: BEC HAYCRAFT — THE BOWER CO



some wonderful photos of her figurative and floral works appeared. As well as being creative at the easel, Alison is kept busy with her graphic design business, and the odd interior design brief. If you would like to see more of Alison's work, you can visit her website [www.alisonpercydesigner.com.au](http://www.alisonpercydesigner.com.au). Congratulations Alison, and thank you for allowing us to share your story.

## Studio News

### *Members Summer Exhibition*

Just a reminder that the Members Summer Exhibition will commence 3 November 2015. Opening – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November at pm. Please bring a plate to share.

### *Watercolour Workshop Report*

On the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October a very successful watercolour workshop was held. This was organized by Jenny Wallace and the tutor was Julian Bruere, from Melbourne.

Julian is an emerging watercolour star of the future. His approach to watercolour painting is somewhat analytical, underpinned by sound drawing skills and executed using traditional watercolour techniques. Whilst specialising in maritime subject matter Julian's mastery of water as a theme extends into depiction of real and imaginary landscapes and seascapes.



Our water themed paintings included a beach scene, puddles in a landscape and an old fishing boat in Portsmouth (from photos) and also an angry sea crashing onto rocks from our imagination – quite diverse water subjects.

Julian is a most generous tutor sharing his expert knowledge and resources very freely. He had a number of folios and sketch books we could look at, allowed us to take photos of his work and issued printed hand-outs. So generous and hard working that when most of us had adjourned to the have a cuppa at about 3.30 on Saturday, he came into the room and asked whether we thought we had finished for the day. We all looked a bit sheepish and Julian returned with printed sheets for each of us and proceeded to give us a talk about composition, which lasted for about another 45 minutes.

Obviously we all had a very productive and enjoyable time and would thoroughly recommend Julian as a tutor in any future workshops.

A big thank you to Jen for all the organization – we are most grateful.

Judy Balfour



## Plant Farm News

There are 36 Black and White paintings on display in the cafe at the moment. Please check them out as they will come down on December 1<sup>st</sup>, and be replaced by our Christmas show "LITTLE GEMS". It will be up until 31<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2016, but you can join other members for our Christmas Party on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December and enjoy seeing it then.

LITTLE GEMS can be in any medium, any theme, any size! Nothing over \$150. Paintings can be left at the studio by Mon.30<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Thanks for the continued support of our little exhibitions. Keep up the brush mileage!!

Heather Sparks

## About Our MAMA Exhibition

Our exhibition at MAMA will be held from Thursday, 3rd March – Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

### TITLE OF THE EXHIBITION – “A Brush with Border Artists”

AWAS artists are asked to prepare works which feature something that is of special importance and significance to the artist personally. This may be an object, a place, a thought or a memory which is incorporated in the work.

This exhibition will be curated by the staff at MAMA, with determining factors being the use of the available space and the overall impact and presentation of the exhibition.

The exhibition will have two sections – minor and major works. Members may submit one minor work only, or one minor plus one major work.

**Minor Works** – these will be hung in a grid (see diagram) as a collaborative entity and will be at the entrance to the exhibition of major works. Presented like “a wall of icons.” The number of minor works hung will depend on the wall space available.



These small works are to be on paper and will all be a standard size (30.5 x 20.3cm) and framed, unmatted in the frames provided by MAMA. All works are to be landscape format.

This work is to link to the object of significance in your major work and is to be executed on a very pale neutral background (can be the paper left plain.) A single object alone is to be depicted. Any medium may be used.

### Major Works

The composition of the major work is to include the personal object / symbol which you have depicted in your minor work, but it need not dominate the work.

- Any medium and any subject matter may be used
- Professional artists' quality materials are to be used i.e. good quality stretched canvas, good quality paper or board and professional artists' quality paints, pastels etc.
- 1m x 1m is the maximum size for any work.
- Works may be on stretched canvas – unframed with neat edges, no dribbles or marks. The edges may be painted in a plain colour related to the painting or may extend as a wrap around of the painting. The canvas may be of any size not exceeding 1m x 1m.
- Any works to be framed are to be in the frames supplied on loan by MAMA. These are all plain, very pale raw wood and one of each size is in the studio meeting room for members to look at. The artist is to supply the mat and the choice of size or colour of the mat is at the discretion of the artist. (Frame sizes i.e. the glass area is listed below.) Unframed, matted

works are to be submitted and then the curator will choose the works to be framed. These will be for sale as unframed works i.e. removed from the frame.

- For those members choosing to submit major works for framing, we need to compile a list of committed artists to ensure the availability of frames. A form to be filled in by you, to indicate your frame size preference is on the black table in the middle room.
- Frame sizes (glass area) 40.5 x 30.5cm; 50.5 x 40.5cm; 68 x 58cm; 77.0 x 100.3cm. Your work may be either portrait or landscape format.
- A limited number of works on paper may be chosen by the curator. These works will be hung using “3M Command” type tabs.

**Note:** Further information regarding the following will be sent to members as soon as we have confirmation from MAMA:

- The amount of commission MAMA will charge on exhibition works sold.
- The date completed work for framing will be required for framing.
- The date completed unframed works will be required.

## A note from the editor

As the new Newsletter editor I am asking members to contribute to the publication. If you have any item you think would be of interest to members please forward this to my e-mail – [djbalfour@bigpond.com](mailto:djbalfour@bigpond.com) Remember it is your Newsletter and we wish to make it as interesting as possible for everyone to enjoy and be part of the society.

Thanks – Judy Balfour

## Art Quote

“Anything under the sun is beautiful if you have vision. It is the seeing of the thing that makes it so.”  
Charles Hawthorne

## Key Contacts

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