



ALBURY - WODONGA  
ARTISTS SOCIETY


# NEWSLETTER

PAINTBOX STUDIO/GALLERY  
GATEWAY ISLAND, LINCOLN CAUSEWAY,  
PO BOX 1170,  
WODONGA, VICTORIA 3689

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OCTOBER 2016

## Dates for your Calendar!

<b>Regular Groups</b>		
Every Tuesday	Oils – 10am – 4pm ( and others)	Co-Ordinator: Kata Kupresak
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Life Drawing 1 – 4pm	Co-ordinator: Olga Juskiw
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct (see note)	Acrylic Group 10am – 4pm	Co-ordinator: Nancy Robinson
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Portraits – 1 – 4pm	Co-ordinator: Elsie Reitenbach
<b>Meetings</b>		
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> October	AGM & General Meeting 2.00pm	Secretary: Therese Davis
<b>Workshops</b>		
Sat – Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Watercolour Workshop	Co-ordinator: Jen Wallace
<b>Other</b>		
 Christmas Party	Fri 9th 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

September has been quite a month for exhibitions, with St Augustine's, Trinity, and Holbrook heading up the list. Congratulations to those of our AWAS members, who had works exhibited, and also I understand that there were a number of sales amongst them. It's great to see this support for our local exhibitions, with money going back into our community, and I encourage all of our members to consider works for next year.

Just to remind you that our AGM is coming up again next month on Sunday 16 October at 2pm, and again we will be looking for members to fill positions on the committee. If you would like to have a say about how AWAS runs, then this is your opportunity to get involved. So if you are at all interested, and want to find out more, talk to a committee member to find out more about what is required. Fresh faces bring new ideas. We have attached a Nomination Form at the end of this newsletter.

Also a reminder that our Annual Exhibition is coming up in November, so please support your society and put aside one of your works for this. We are planning to have an Official Opening for the exhibition, and there will also be a People's Choice Award.

We are also starting to think about Christmas, and again this year we are planning a Christmas party at the Wodonga Plant Farm, for 5.30pm on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December. So please keep this date free. Once again, it will be a great opportunity to meet fellow AWAS members, and take a look at the current exhibition there of "Little Gems".

Hope to see you at the AGM

Barb Strand

President

## Members News

Welcome to new member Tony Smit.

Two of our members have moved to Tassie - Carol Gilbert and Gai Sutherland. We send best wishes to you both and hope your creative art continues to flourish on the "apple isle". Is there some magic in the air that you have both gone south?

## Christmas Party

Make sure you jot this date in your dairy (or phone) Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30 pm

## Gateway Village Open Day

### Gateway Village Open Day (24 September 2016)

What a great day this turned out to be! The weather was kind, the crowds were huge, and the participation from the Gateway community was fantastic. To keep the crowds coming, there was a jumping castle, band, buskers, animal farm, and plenty of stalls to look at, in addition to the Farmers Market and the open shops and studios of the Village residents.





It was great to see that AWAS was prominent, with our “Paint Your Parent” easels set up for the kids, and “Paint a Masterpiece” easels set up for the adults. There was plenty of fun and involvement, and the paint brushes were kept busy throughout the morning. A couple of artists working plein air, sketching the scenes, and an artist working in the studio also added to the atmosphere.

Many thanks have to go to AWAS Publicity Officer Rod Farr for arranging such a great day. Rod was prominent throughout the morning, moving around our area, dressed to kill in his apron and beret. Also many thanks to Rod’s family and those AWAS members who helped out on the day. What a great success!!



Thanks everyone.

Barb Strand

President



### Spotlight On.....Olga Juskiw

I was born in Emmerich, Germany in 1946. My parents were Ukrainian and were part of the forced labour plan that Hitler had for invaded countries. My parents survived the Allied bombings in Germany and we eventually migrated to Australia via the refugee camps in Italy. We arrived in Australia in 1949 and were part of the Bonegilla experience and later settled in Wodonga.

I remember I was always drawing and colouring in as a child and loved drawing animals (esp. horses), people (esp. ballet dancers) and scenes. We had a 'mini farm', like many migrants at that time. We had a large block of land that accommodated chooks and chickens, ducks and ducklings, a cow and later a calf. Mum made butter and cheese and had a large veggie garden. One day I drew a 'red chook' which I was very proud of and showed it to my teacher as part of school homework. The teacher exclaimed in aghast that chooks aren't red and she gave me no credit for work well done. I was aged approximately 5 years and this was one of my many experiences of cultural differences



between the Ukrainian ways and Australian. In Ukraine the word red signified a broad range of that spectrum e.g. reddish orange, ginger, red brown, red, etc., so at home when we spoke about the red chooks all Ukrainians knew what that meant.

In year 10 I did art by correspondence, since the nuns did not teach that subject. I prided myself at having achieved the understanding of human anatomy and proportion ( as is possible at that young age). I did copious drawings to perfect the ballet dancer in her short tutu and one leg raised in a classic ballet pose. I submitted what I thought was a fantastic drawing. The supervising nun who oversaw all correspondent work, drew me aside and said that too much leg exposure was immoral and I had to cover up the legs (that I had laboured on for so long) or the drawing would not be submitted. Mortified, I had to draw a long gown over those fabulous legs, and hide all evidence of my 'talent' and any hope of good marks that I had hoped to achieve.

One visionary lay teacher suggested I train to be an art teacher and so began my interest in an art career. I did my Diploma in Art at RMIT and later a Fellowship Diploma in Art History. This was followed by the Diploma in Education at the Sydney Teachers College. I have done numerous art courses since.

I won the Albury Art Prize in 1990 for my painting "Shaman's Drum", and have been exhibiting in group shows e.g. The Benalla Nude. My recent exhibitions have been travel based such as Talking Turkey which was about my trip to Turkey and the current one, Beyond Casablanca which is about my trip to Morocco.

My approach to art is an exploratory one where the process of the art making is evident, through layers of washes, overdrawing, and over painting, and always searching for new ways of interpreting the object and subject matter. I try to show spontaneity by using gestural lines and marks that appear accidental and arbitrary at times as I try to energise areas of a painting or drawing and connect the subject to the viewer. My work is a combination of drawing and painting. For me the line, independent of form or edge, is an important element in my work as it creates an animation in its own right. I have admired artists like John Olsen, David Fairbairn, Wendy Sharpe, Toulouse Lautrec, Picasso, Matisse and many others who have made the line exciting and alive. Art is a continuous learning process that never has an ending. The key to art making is to first make it as interesting and exciting for oneself, to entertain and challenge oneself and then maybe that relates to others.



## Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> October at 2.00pm. Bring a plate and share a social afternoon with friends.

Nomination form at the end of this newsletter and there are also some copies at the studio.

Membership fees are due in October. It is best for us (and probably easiest for you) to pay by electronic transfer. The fee is \$100 for the year.

AWAS Bank details are : BSB: 063 534 Account No: 00903179

## Studio News

“Pastel Perfect” Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November. Please have your paintings to the studio by Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

“Members’ Annual Exhibition” 15<sup>th</sup> November – 31<sup>st</sup> January.

Please support these exhibitions and get busy painting for the Annual Exhibition.

## Plant Farm News

“Blooming Lovely” 4<sup>th</sup> October – 6<sup>th</sup> December. Please take paintings to the Plant Farm at 2 – 2.30 on Tuesday.

“Little Gems” (Little price – nothing over \$150; any size) 6<sup>th</sup> December – 31<sup>st</sup> January.

## Exhibitions

### MELBOURNE:

NGV Ian Potter Gallery Federation Square: “John Olsen – a lifetime collection of his abstract paintings.”

On now until 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2017

NGV: “David Hockney – Current”. One of the most influential British artists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century – this exhibition shows 700 works from the last decade of the artist’s career.

11<sup>th</sup> November – 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

### LOCAL AREA:

MAMA – last days of “Here and Now” by Albury artist, Jo Davenport. Closes on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Wangaratta Art Gallery – last days of “Obsessions” by Corowa artist Chris Upton’s exhibition. Closes on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

GIGS – last days of Alison Percy’s solo exhibition. Closes on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Yackandandah Courthouse – “Fresh and Unframed” 28<sup>th</sup> October - 1<sup>st</sup> November; opening Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm. Entries close 10<sup>th</sup> October.

## Open Galleries Exhibition Opportunity – Wodonga City Council



### OPEN GALLERIES



City of Wodonga has three light boxes located on the northern side of Wodonga Library which have been allocated to local artists as an open gallery to display their artwork in a public space. This is an opportunity to make a unique artistic statement in a high visibility area. Imagery exhibited will be ephemeral works rotated on a 6-9 monthly basis.

Artists are invited to submit an Expression of Interest, including proposed images or conceptual designs, addressing the criteria of the Open Gallery project.

#### **The Light Boxes:**

Each of the light boxes is A0 size (841mm x 1189mm) with portrait orientation.

The light boxes are side lit and artworks will be reproduced onto film polyester.

#### **Budget:**

The artist fee is \$450 to supply 3 print ready artworks in the above dimensions for exhibition. This fee will include all costs involved in the creative development of the work and delivery of the work as a high resolution print ready file suitable for reproduction at the above dimensions.

Wodonga Council will meet the cost of the printing of the artworks.

#### **Design Criteria:**

Proposals will be assessed on the following criteria:

- ☑ Works of high quality and artistic merit
- ☑ Innovative and engaging

For further information or enquiries please contact the Cultural Development Coordinator: Helen Newman (contact details below)

Helen Newman  
Cultural Development Co-ordinator  
e-mail: [hnewman@wodonga.vic.gov.au](mailto:hnewman@wodonga.vic.gov.au)

## Library

A very big thank you to Pauline Farries for donating many, many wonderful books to our library.

## Art Quote

“Art is not a way of making a living; it’s a way of making life.”

## Key Contacts

President	Barb Strand	Phone: 0412 688 507 Email: <a href="mailto:martinstrand@westnet.com.au">martinstrand@westnet.com.au</a>
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Studio Exhibitions	Christina Zey	Phone: 02 6040 0045 or 0410 511 211 Email: <a href="mailto:cristina2zei@gmail.com">cristina2zei@gmail.com</a>
Plant Farm Exhibitions	Heather Sparks	Phone: 02 6059 5306 Email: <a href="mailto:heathersparkes@exemail.com.au">heathersparkes@exemail.com.au</a>

## AWAS NOMINATION FORM FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Please note that each nomination must be countersigned by the person being nominated.

I wish to nominate the following persons for the position of:

Position	Nomination	Signature of Nominated Person
President		
Vice-President		
Secretary		
Treasurer		
Newsletter Editor (committee Member 1)		
Committee Member 2		
Committee Member 3		

Name of Submitting Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Seconding Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_