

Dates for your Calendar!

Regular Groups			
Every Tuesday	Oils – 10am – 3pm (and others) Co-Ordinator: Kata Kupresak		
Sat 1 st April	Life Drawing 1 –3pm Co-ordinator: Olga Juskiw		
Sat 8 th April	Mixed Media 10am – 3pm Co-ordinator: Kathy Bruce		
Sat 15 th April	Portraits – 1 – 3pm Co-ordinator: Elsie Reitenbach		
Meetings			
Wed 17 th May	Committee Meeting 8.30am	Secretary: Christina Zey	
Wed 12 th April	General Meeting 12.30pm		
Workshops			
Sat-Sun 29 th -30 th April	Catherine Hamilton – "The	Workshop Co-ordinator: Kathy	
	Language of Colour"	Bruce	

NB – Daylight savings ends on 1st April and the studio closes at 3pm for the next six months.

For information on how to contact Committee members and co-ordinators, refer to the list at the end of this newsletter.

A Word from our President

First of all, I would like to thank Kathy Kupresak for organising the Oils Workshop held at the studio on 25th and 26th March, with tutor Christine Cafarella-Pearce. There were seven attendees for the workshop, which was a little disappointing, but nonetheless, for those of us who attended it was two days of great painting and lots of learning. More on the workshop later in this newsletter. Next workshop off the rank will be the Language of Colour with Catherine Hamilton, on 29th and 30th April. This workshop has been a real hit with members and is oversubscribed. So perhaps we may have to look at running another one of the same workshops in the future.

I would also like to thank those members who rallied together and found some artworks to grace the walls of the studio during the past few weeks. For a few days there, after the Life Drawing workshop works came down, there was nothing on the walls. Thankfully, people saw the need and quickly responded. Thanks to you all.

At our last general meeting, there was some discussion about the need to get more membership participation in activities around the arts. For this reason, your committee is suggesting the re-introduction of the "Show and Tell" sessions (as introduced by past President Pieter Mol) where members bring in their

works and we have a pleasant afternoon of discussion about the pieces. This will be up for discussion at our next general meeting, so come along if you want to have your say.

Also at our last general meeting, there was some discussion about holding a more prominent annual exhibition. It was generally felt that we needed to find a more suitable venue, and promote the event more widely. As such, your committee is currently "sussing out" suitable locations and we hope to be able to report more in the near future.

Finally, as requested at our last general meeting, we will be returning to Wednesday general meetings, albeit on a two-monthly basis, with a view to re-establishing the Wednesday social day. As such, we will be holding our next general meeting at the studio on Wednesday 12 April at 12.30pm.

Hope to see you there. Happy painting!! Barb

PS: How are your paintings going for our MAMA "White Light" exhibition? Hopefully further along than mine!!!

Spotlight On.... Deb Nicholson



Having nurtured a large country garden for many years, the transition to painting still life with flowers seemed a natural process after downsizing to town.

I use acrylic, sometimes with watercolour, a little mixed media at times and I just love bold colour. Painting under the tuition of talented former Wodonga artist Ann Collins for a time, gave me a wonderful insight and direction with colour and composition. Her guidance is enabling me to move slowly from a more traditional approach to a freer style. As a member of The Thurgoona Buds Art Group and the Albury Wodonga Artists Society. I am continually in the company of talented artists and mentors.

I have been fortunate to be able to sell my paintings privately and locally through both art societies, Lasting Images Picture Framing, and previously at the Bright Autumn Art Exhibition.







Some of Deb's colourful still paintings.

Editor's Note: Please contact me at jybalfour@outlook.com to tell me you will be a Spotlight On.... In a future edition. I would really appreciate some volunteers.

Workshop Report - Landscapes with Christine Cafarella-Pearce

This was a 'No Turps' Oil Workshop



What a wonderful learning experience was had by the enthusiastic participants. Despite our differing experience in the use of oils, all the participants took to the challenges with gusto.

The first painting was a lovely landscape scene, with plains and mountains set in the alpine region. The second also in the alpine region, was a river scene with trees and mountains in the background.

Christine's knowledge and experience shone through as she taught us about foliage, water, foreground, recession, and mixing colours, particularly as regards the Australian landscape, as well as various hints and tips.

Her unique style was a challenge to some of us as we worked in a tonal style, thin and loose and impressionistic, and then we built the final layer with thicker paint. I'm sure that we will all take and use what we have learnt from the workshop and incorporate it into our own painting lives.



It was a very interesting and stimulating weekend.

Thanks to Christine, for demonstrating for us and teaching us. Also, thank you to all the participants who made this workshop happen, and to those that contributed towards afternoon tea.

Kata Kupresak
Oils Co-ordinator

Members News

Janelle Hoban has had the initial procedure of a Cochlear implant with the electronic device being sugically fitted. The cochlea has 24 electrodes and Janelle will return to Melbourne next Tuesday, 4th April when 2 of the electrodes will be switched on. Others will gradually be switched on over the next few weeks and hopefully all will be well and Janelle will have hearing restored. What a momentous life changing event for Janelle!!!

The cochlear implant was invented by Professor Graeme Clark of the University of Melbourne in 1979, and interestingly Janelle was a nurse at The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital when the first Cochlear implant was fitted.

We all send her our best wishes.

Studio News

From next week, hopefully we will have art from the "Oil and Acrylics" workshop to hang.

Works can be hung from the wires with clips so there no need to have your work framed. These will remain until the "Language of Colour" workshop on 29th and 30th April.

ROSTER - This is on the table in the middle room so please enter your name on a day that suits you – remember share the load. If every member registered for duty, we would all only have to do it once a year. The roster is for Sundays and some Saturdays. Members are not required when Saturday groups (three Saturdays per month) or tutored workshops are held. You may volunteer to roster for half days 10 - 1; 1 - 3. We are closed on Mondays; Tuesday is mainly oil painters; Wednesdays and Thursdays are usually well patronised, while Fridays (any medium) often only has one or two members attend.

Plant Farm News

The Plant Farm have made a request that we do not hang paintings before 2.30. "Bright and Bold" exhibition will remain until Tuesday, 4th April. Then "Home and Abroad" until Tuesday 6th June.

Please bring your work to the Plant Farm or ask someone to bring it for you. Also, ensure the proper hanging equipment is used. Put the \$2.00 entry fee in an envelope labelled with your name and attach it to the back of your painting. Remember from 2.30.

Heather Sparks
Exhibition Co-ordinator

Saturday Studio Groups

We would appreciate more support for these groups.

Contact the co-ordinator of the group for further information – names and contact details are provided later in this newsletter.

Life Drawing is held from 1pm – 4pm on the first Saturday of the month. There is a small charge to cover the hiring of the model.

The co-ordinator is Olga Juskiw.

Mixed Media is held on the second Saturday of the month -8^{th} April this month. Our session in March was not patronised well, only three AWAS regulars attended. This is very disappointing as we are trying to have activities that will appeal to members. The idea of this session is to share ideas and materials, to broaden our ideas and try something new (if you wish). Of course, we would love you to come along and just paint in whatever medium you prefer; just have fun and enjoy a social day. Kathy Bruce is the co-ordinator.

Portraits is held on the third Saturday of the month from 1pm – 4pm; this month on 18th March. Some members who regularly participate come at 10 o'clock and make a day of it. There is a small charge for the hiring of the model.

Elsie Reitenbach is the co-ordinator.

Exhibitions

Beechworth Botanica. This is inaugural exhibition for Beechworth. Botanical art exhibitions are regularly held in Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne and so now Beechworth joins these prestigious fine art events. There will be over 100 paintings by local and interstate artists including many who are national and international artists in this specialised field. Opening night is Wednesday, 12^{th} April at 6pm and the exhibition closes on Friday, 21^{st} April. The exhibition will be displayed at Beechworth Town Hall from 10-4 each day. So, it is open over Easter and includes The Golden Horseshoe Festival.

2017 Bright Art Gallery & Cultural Centre 55th Annual Autumn Art Exhibition Open Saturday 1st April to Sunday 14th May - 10am to 4pm Daily - Entry \$5 per person. Entries for this exhibition closed on Friday, 24th February.

As we all know, Autumn in Bright is a magic day out and the art exhibition is a great bonus.

MAMA - "Yours" exhibition now at MAMA and closes 17th April. This is an exhibition of all the works they own from their basement, and it is absolutely great to see the works - famous artists and not so well known. Includes past winners of the Albury Art Society prize, dating back to the 40's. Well worth seeing.

Library

A very big thank you to Carol Smith who has donated several books to our library.

ADFAS - Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society



Information about ADFAS is on the small noticeboard in the meeting room, near the window. There are copies of the 2017 brochure available there as well.

The next lecture will be on Friday, 31^{st} March - 6 pm for drinks and nibbles. Lecture from 6.30 - 7.30 pm

For further information about ADFAS contact Judy Balfour

Art Quote

"Inspiration exists, but it has to find us working." Pablo Picasso

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