



ALBURY - WODONGA
ARTISTS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

PAINTBOX STUDIO/GALLERY
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AUGUST 2017

Dates for your Calendar!

Regular Groups		
Every Tuesday	Oils – 10am – 4pm (and others)	Co-Ordinator: Kata Kupresak
Sat 5 TH August	Life Drawing 1 – 3pm	Co-ordinator: Olga Juskiw
Sat 12 th August	Mixed Media 10am – 3pm	Co-ordinator: Kathy Bruce
Sat 10 th August	Portraits – 1 – 3pm	Co-ordinator: Elsie Reitenbach
Meetings		
Wed 29 th September	Committee Meeting 8.30am	Secretary: Christina Zey
Wed 9 th August	General Meeting 12.30pm	Secretary: Christina Zey
Workshops		
Portraits - in November; date and details to be finalised	Tutor: Catherine Hamilton	Co-ordinators: Elsie Reitenbach and Kathy Bruce
Watercolour 7 th – 8 th October	Tutor: Malcolm Beattie	Co-ordinator: Jen Wallace
EXHIBITION OPENING Thursday, 3 rd August	MAMA “White Light” exhibition 5.30 – 6.30pm	

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

It's been a busy month, preparing for our MAMA exhibition “White Light”. I must admit that I was one of those people who left things until the last minute – please don't use this as a good example, as I was nearly caught out this time when I fell when walking in a national park near Sydney and hurt my right shoulder badly! Not a good thing to do, particularly as I get ready for my own exhibition this month!

MAMA Exhibition

I am pleased to say that the White Light entries have been finalised and delivered, thirty-two in all, and I am now looking forward to our opening night on Thursday 3 August 5.30pm to 6.30pm when all will be revealed. I expect that it will be a great show, based on what I have seen so far. So, I encourage you all to come along and participate in the buzz of the evening. It's free admission, and Proudly supported by: Wodonga City Council, Albury City Council, & Wodonga Plant Farm

drinks can be purchased at the bar. More details can be found on the MAMA website: www.mamalbury.com.au/see-and-do/exhibitions/albury-wodonga-artists-society-white-light

And by the way, doesn't Judy Balfour's painting do the marketing for our exhibition justice? – a beautiful painting and a great play on white light. Thanks Judy!

Changes at MAMA

Last week I attended a session given by MAMA's new Curator Michael Moran, who explained the process for applying for an exhibition in MAMA's Brindley Gallery for 2018. There are 8 slots up for grabs in 2018, and for those of you who are interested, entries close 31 August 2017, and more information can be found on the MAMA website. I have included a small article later in this newsletter, giving Michael's tips on how to make a good application for an exhibition. In any event, it was refreshing to hear Michael's thoughts on how he believed that MAMA should operate to support local artists. It was clear that he wanted to create a supporting and nurturing environment for local artists, with him as Curator working closely with the artist to help develop their exhibition. He explained that artists will not be expected to pay for their exhibitions, and openings will be free. Brindley Gallery is to have a minor facelift, and will be converted to a proper single room gallery, with white walls. There will be fewer shows next year, in order to give the staff some breathing time between exhibitions, and to give him time to concentrate on the artists. All of which sounds good to me! Well done Michael!!

AWAS Constitution

Over the past few months your committee has been looking for the AWAS constitution. Simply put, we haven't been able to find it, despite searches high and low. It would appear to have been lost in one of our many clean-ups over the years. This has left us with a problem, which needs to be solved. Recent past presidents have pointed toward the model constitution for incorporated associations, prepared by NSW Fair Trading. Similarly, Val Boulton was able to provide some documents indicating that in 1987, when AWAS was formed, they had talked about using the "model rules" as it was then known, as a guide for AWAS own constitution. As such, your committee has looked again to the NSW Model Constitution, and reviewed the latest version from NSW Fair Trading for its applicability to AWAS. Our conclusion has been that the constitution, as published, aligns with the requirements of our organisation and properly fits our needs without change. It therefore becomes necessary to adopt the new constitution through a formal process. For this reason, a copy of the new proposed constitution will be circulated to all members by email, for comment. It will then be presented at a general meeting of all members for discussion and hopefully formal adoption. As responsible members, could you each please treat this matter seriously and with proper attention. Many thanks.

Nominations for Committee Members 2017/8.

Our most important meeting of the year is fast approaching, and your committee has begun preparations for our Annual General Meeting in October. Members need to be aware now that **none of the existing committee members plan to stand again in 2017/8**, leaving all positions open. Similarly, Judy Balfour has advised that she will not be continuing as Newsletter Editor next year due to too many other commitments.

Overall, this is a serious situation for AWAS! I believe that all members need to consider now how they can best support AWAS through the coming year. Talk with friends and fellow artists, and consider whether you can find time to take on a job, or at least part of a job with someone else. Each job takes time, but the load becomes a lot lighter when it is shared. Look at my job, where Heather Sparks has been able to fill in for me during my many absences, making it possible for me to continue travelling and doing things that I want to do. Perhaps we need to break down all of our jobs into smaller ones, making it easier to handle. Whatever the case, I am asking all of you to give this matter serious consideration.

A Committee Nomination Form has been attached to this newsletter, and a copy can also be found on the AWAS website.

General Meeting – Wednesday, 9th August

The meeting will begin at 12.30. Maybe you would like to come earlier and have your lunch with colleagues. After the meeting Rod Farr will again conduct a “Show and Tell” session. So bring along a painting to participate. This was well received after the last general meeting.

Spotlight On..... Sheila Maguire

I was born and spent my early years in India. There my education was rather sketchy, in spite of the good efforts of governesses who unfortunately did not stay very long. Amritsar was a garrison town in those days with plenty of eligible young men to marry, which they did. Later we moved to Benares, now called Varanasi, here schooling stopped, and the creative urge moved in. The front verandah had a small room on it, and here my sister, June painted Mickey Mouse on the walls and I made a cardboard doll's house which stood on the floor — using old packing cases. This 'Home' was furnished with match box furniture. Ceiling lights were upturned cup-cake paper cases suspended on thread.

Eventually all this pleasant life had to come to an end. We Cheerfully tossed our battered **topi*** to the wake of the S.S Britannia, as it sailed out of Bombay harbour little realising we were never to return.

*** FROM THE EDITOR:

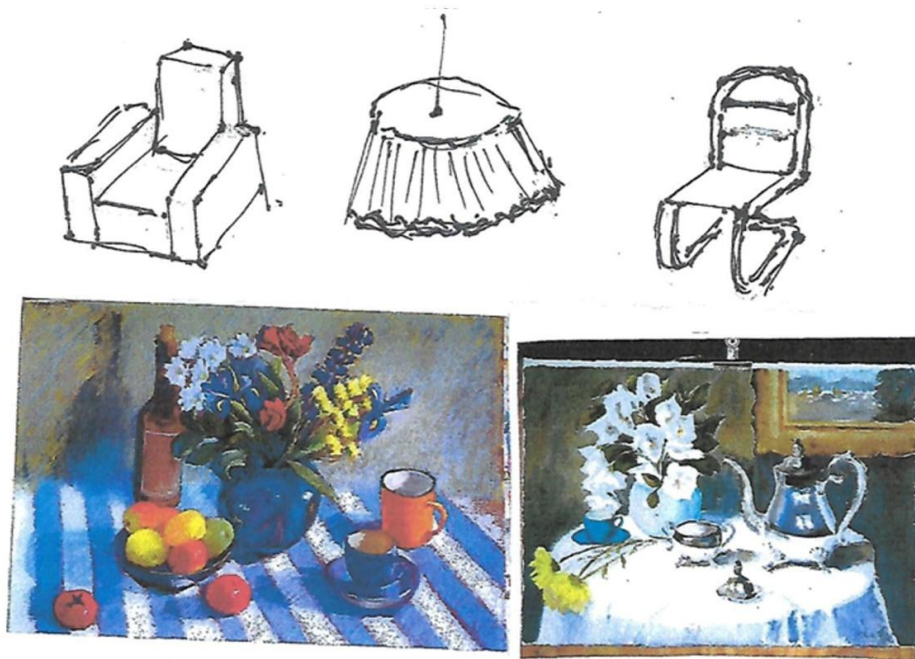
Noun 1. topi - a lightweight hat worn in tropical countries for protection from the sun

→ **pith hat, pith helmet, sun helmet, topee**

↔ **sun hat, sunhat** - a hat with a broad brim that protects the face from direct exposure to the sun



Many years later after various school and holiday painting courses my efforts morphed into an Associates Diploma course with Gordon Wolff, here in Albury. I continue to draw and paint for pleasure.



Plant Farm News

PLANT FARM EXHIBITION DATES

8th August – 10th October “Faces and Figures”

10th Oct – 5th December “Interiors”

5th December – 5th February “Art Bargain Sale”

Come to the Plant Farm at 2.00pm. Remember to bring \$2.00 in an envelope for your entry.

Studio News

We really would like members to bring a painting /s to hang in the studio. The same paintings have been there for a few months. Maybe you could bring a work to the General Meeting on Wednesday, 9th August and it could be hung then.

Saturday Studio 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; this month the 5th August. There is a small charge to cover the hiring of the model.

We will have life drawing with a difference in August. Lhysa Mangobean will be our model and she will bring some costumes so that she is partially clothed as were the models in Toulouse Lautrec's paintings. Olga Juskiw is the co-ordinator.

Mixed Media The next Acrylic / Mixed media (or paint whatever you like) day is 12th August. The idea of this group is to push the boundaries a bit, for those who wish to.

We also have some video segments to show that should inspire us. Otherwise just come along a paint with whatever medium you like. The two or three members who have been attending would love some company. Kathy Bruce is the co-ordinator.

Portraits is held on the third Saturday of the month from 1pm – 4pm; this month on 19th August. 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.

Exhibition News

MAMA – Our AWAS exhibition “White Light” Opening Thursday, 3rd August 5.30 – 6.30pm then until Sunday, 10th September.

GIGS Gallery – Beechworth Botanical Art Group exhibition – “Botanical Art in Bloom”: Wednesday 23rd August – Sunday 17th September in the side gallery.

St. Augustines Art Show – 18 -20th August

Holbrook Rotary Art Show – 28th August – 2nd September

Trinity Anglican College Exhibition – Friday 6th - Sunday 10th September.

NGV – Masterworks from MoMA (Museum of Modern Art, New York) until 7th October.

TWO AWAS MEMBERS EXHIBITION IN SYDNEY – Barb Strand and Meg Sprouster

If you are in Sydney between the 22nd August and 3rd September you may like to view “Listen to the Land” exhibition at Bondi Pavilion Gallery. Opening night is Wednesday, 23rd, 6 – 8pm.

Meg's work on the left and Barb's on the right. Their contrasting styles are evident in this promotional illustration.



Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney – Archibald, Wynne and Sulman until 22nd October.

- O'Keefe, Preston and Cossington-Smith until 2nd October

TUTORED WORKSHOPS

Portraits – Tutor: Catherine Hamilton

This workshop will be held in November (we are planning for the weekend 11th and 12th November) but details have not been finalised yet as Catherine is overseas.

Watercolours 7th – 8th October - Tutor: Malcolm Beattie

This class is now full but If you would like to go on a waiting list, email Jen. We sometimes have someone who cannot attend because of unforeseen circumstances.

NOTES ON HOW TO MAKE A SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITION APPLICATION

We all know that Exhibition Applications are hard work! They require commitment, time, and effort. But hopefully, the payoff is worth it. I must admit I have written quite a few applications over the past few years, including some successful ones, and I always find the process far from enjoyable. So here are some pointers, gleaned from MAMA's new Curator Michael Moran.

According to Michael:

1. The process around making an exhibition application is usually quite strict but well worth the effort put in.
2. Applications are usually judged by a panel, and the first applications to be eliminated will be those that have not addressed the application form. The application form has been developed with a purpose in mind, so you are expected to answer every question, and answer it completely and exactly. Often word count is important so stick within the instructions. Do not become overly verbose.
3. It pays to have a clear image of what your show/exhibition is to look like, even at this stage - paintings, sculptures, videos, installations. When writing about this, try to develop a picture in words for the reader – sight, sound, smell, feel etc. A mentor or curator may be a useful person to consult about this.
4. When asked to provide images, keep to the number of images requested exactly. Usually images are to be provided in one document, so that the review panel can open the document and see all your works together. Images should be clearly labelled, and be only of the work, not the surrounds. Poor quality images are not worth the effort.
5. When applying for an exhibition some twelve months out, it is highly possible that you may not have images of completed works destined for that exhibition. As such, the recommendation is to provide images of recent works as examples indicative of your work, or images of works in progress. Once again, quality is important.
6. There are those of us who do not feel comfortable with some of the aspects of preparing an application – writing the words, taking good photo images, or working with computers, the

internet and email. Do not let this put you off – find someone who can help – a family member, a friend, a young person, a fellow member of AWAS.

7. Ultimately you can learn from each process, and even though you may not get feedback when you are unsuccessful, you can always talk to the curator/organiser and ask for guidance on how to improve your entry for next time. Most people are more willing to talk to you, than put this in writing. So give them a ring, and see if they are willing to share.

My feeling is that exhibition success is about not being backward in coming forward. I often think of Brett Whitely, whose great success was as a marketer of his own work. He worked hard at it, travelling the world, moving around, selling his concepts and ideas, moving in the “right” circles, getting exposure. We may not think much now of his lifestyle, and he certainly wasn’t a happy man in the end, but basically he worked hard and worked best when he believed in himself.

Barb Strand

Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society (ADFAS)

The next ADFAS lecture will be held at the Hothouse Theatre, Gateway Village this Friday, 4th August 6.00 – 7.30pm. The September lecture will be held on Friday, 1st September.

Friday 4th August

NIGEL BATES

THEY MAKE NO NOISE

What is it that conductors do that makes orchestras respond in so many different ways? Is it good baton technique, a strong personality or the way they look? And why are there so few women found on the podium? Drawing on history and his own experiences from over 6000 performances and recordings, Nigel seeks out some answers. This lecture contains some very rare video footage of conductors in rehearsal and performance.



Friday 1st September

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE TO MAMA

GHISLAINE HOWARD

THE CUISINE OF ART AND THE ART OF CUISINE

This lecture will be a feast for the eyes and tickle the taste buds, an inspiration for your cooking - and looking. It will feature the art, anecdotes and recipes of artists who loved their food. Ghislaine will discuss Toulouse Lautrec, famous in his day for his truly fabulous meals and infamous cookbook, Renoir, who introduced Paris to the pleasures of Provencal peasant cooking, as well as Monet, Cézanne, Picasso and others.



Come along and learn more as well as having an enjoyable evening that begins with drinks and nibbles prior to the lecture which begins at 6.30. Cost \$25 – no need to book, just pay at the door. For more information about ADFAS contact Judy Balfour at 0439 953 903 or jybalfour@outlook.com

A Thank You

One of our tutors' paintings, the one of the fishing boat by Julien Bruere, needed attention as the painting had slipped down from the mat. Ellis Thomson of "Lasting Images" picture framers (Kiewa St, Albury – opposite the post office) has kindly offered to repair it for us with no charge. Thank you Ellis.

Proudly supported by:

Wodonga City Council, Albury City Council, & Wodonga Plant Farm

Art Quote

“As my artist’s statement explains, my work is utterly incomprehensible and is therefore full of deep significance.” By cartoon characters - Calvin and Hobbs

Key Contacts

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