



ALBURY - WODONGA
ARTISTS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

PAINTBOX STUDIO/GALLERY
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AWAS 2021 Christmas at the Wodonga Plant Farm Cafe



On the Tuesday of our final Plant Farm exhibition changeover for 2021, a few AWAS members met at the Wodonga Plant Farm Café for an informal Christmas celebration: some had lunch; others came for coffee and cake; some just dropped in for a chat. Others were very busy hanging artworks! Thank you Jill, Heather, Terri and Tony for your efforts on that day as well as your work throughout the year with our changing exhibitions in the Wodonga Plant Farm Café, under the leadership of Coordinator, Tanya Healy.



STUDIO HANGING COMMITTEE: from Jill Scanlon

Many thanks to Heather Green, Tony Smit and Terri Friesen for helping me hang the Wodonga Plant Farm Exhibition for December. Hopefully Tanya has been able to make a full recovery. The exhibition looked good and showed the wide range of talents in our Art Society!

I would also like to particularly thank Tony and Heather for fronting up on the following Wednesday to hang the Christmas Exhibition in the AWAS studio with me. Their input and help was invaluable.

Could I put in a plea for members to come back in 2022 to the **Wednesday** group? We miss you! Thanks again to our intrepid Hanging Committee!

STUDIO GROUPS: ACRYLIC AND MIXED MEDIA from Coordinator: Jill Scanlon

I would just like to thank our resilient little band of followers for helping me to maintain this group through closures and pandemics!

We are hoping to inject a few different ideas and / or workshops next year – all ideas are welcome. However, as a social gathering for painting and laughter, we have enjoyed our sporadic get - togethers and it's done much for our mental health!!

For the New year we resume on the **second Saturday of February**.

Farewell Kasper Wiss.

At the end of last year one of our senior artists Kasper Wiss passed away. While he did not attend the studio very often, he would come to The Wodonga Plant Farm on the days we changed over our exhibitions in the cafe, bringing in his exquisitely detailed paintings.

Here is his very traditional still life painting he submitted in our last annual exhibition in the studio.



As we put 2021 behind us, with all the stops and starts with workshops, hopefully we all have some artwork in the making and are keen to take part in some of our exhibitions, studio activities and perhaps an art field trip or two with other members.

Already the AWAS committee has met, renewed our lease with the Wodonga Council, paid some bills and discussed some of the issues about sales commissions, OH&S, COVID-19 and publicity. We are starting to plan workshops and exhibitions for 2022. Please consider being part of the committee: we need input from members.

Here are some points from our meeting:

- **AWAS charges 15% Commission on sales** for artworks sold at both the studio and Wodonga Plant Farm AWAS exhibitions. Artists should add this 15% in their calculations when pricing their artworks. If the item for sale is \$30 or under (mostly cards at the studio) no commission is charged- the full marked price goes to the artist. This policy is written in our members' information booklet. (Available online and a copy is in our library).
- **Keeping the studio free of clutter-** of ongoing concern. Please take home artworks from previous exhibitions and workshops. Work left to dry needs to be collected within a few days, not stored in the studio.
- As a working studio, easels, tables and chairs are needed. **Leave out 2 or 3 tables in the studio, pushed against the wall** to allow easier viewing of the artworks on display. Easels are to be returned to the middle room. To continue to put tables away increases wear and tear on the furniture and members often struggle with collapsing the tables and transporting them to store. Leaving them out is more convenient, but as we are open to the public the clutter presents a tripping hazard and impedes cleaning the floor. OH&S door signs will be made.
- The welfare of our members needs to take priority when making decisions about **implementing COVID-19 protocols** for AWAS events and informal day-to-day access to the studio for members and the public. While we cannot discriminate against non-vaccinated people, the AWAS membership demographic is mostly vulnerable. A door sign will be created stating that for the protection of all, we encourage only fully vaccinated visitors should enter the studio to view our exhibitions. Coordinators of AWAS events need to be able to make decisions about specific cases, considering the welfare and risks in each case.

EXHIBITIONS AT THE STUDIO



The 4 - day Life Drawing Marathon workshop during January was enjoyed by 13 participants, although not everyone had the stamina for all sessions! We had no tutor, so each person was able to explore their own investigations and interpretations of the figure. Life Drawing artworks on exhibition at the studio will remain until Saturday March 5th.



Will we have a 2022 Annual Members' Exhibition? Come to our General Meeting on Wednesday February 16th at 1pm to discuss possible dates, themes and titles.

2022 AWAS EXHIBITIONS AT THE GARDEN GALLERY CAFÉ, Wodonga Plant Farm

Changeover will be on the **second Tuesday of every second month** as shown below. Time required at Plant Farm is 2.30pm, no earlier please. Use this just as a guide for planning your artwork this year, and always check your current Newsletter!
Coordinator: Tanya Healy. 02 6056 2869

| Date From | Date to | Title |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 8 Feb 2022 | 6 Apr 2022 | "COUNTRY LIFE" |
| 6 th April | 14 June 2022 | "AUTUMN TONES" |
| 14 June 2022 | 9 August 2022 | "STILL LIFE" |
| 9 August 2022 | 11 Oct 2022 | "FACES AND FIGURES" |
| 11 Oct 2022 | 13 Dec 2022 | "SPRING SEASON" |
| 13 Dec 2022 | Feb 2023 | "SUMMER SALE" |

So members, get your "country Life" paintings ready for the first changeover on Tuesday Feb. 8th. 2.30pm

WORKSHOPS PLANNING

Planning is underway for a Steve McCall workshop. Suggestions for workshops with other tutors from our region are welcome. One-day workshops may be a popular option.

Possible outdoor painting and sketching may happen as the weather becomes more settled closer to Easter. Do we have any volunteers to coordinate a day at eg. Wonga Wetlands? Send your ideas to Judy Balfour or come along to our General Meeting on Wednesday February 16th.

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

| Regular sessions | | Contact Coordinator |
|--|--|---|
| Sat 5 th February | Life Drawing 1 – 4pm | Olga Juskiw 0447 770 735 olga.juskiw@icloud.com |
| Sat 12 th February | Acrylic/Mixed Media group 10 - 4pm | Jill Scanlon 0412 477 804 kevin.scanlon@bigpond.com |
| Sat 19 th February | Portraits session 1 – 4pm | J Hoban 0401 919 813 janellehoban40@gmail.com |
| Wednesdays. Tues, Thurs, Fri, Most Sat am. Sunday. | “Social group”. Paint / Chat. All members are welcome. Daily access for members. | Informal. |
| Meetings | | |
| Wed 16 th February | General Meeting 1pm | Secretary Kathleen Bruce 02 6025 5913 kathleenbruce@bigpond.com |
| | | |
| WODONGA PLANT FARM CAFÉ EXHIBITION | Continues until changeover February 8th | Coordinator: Tanya Healy Phone: 02 6056 2869 tanyakerr188@gmail.com |

This is the current committee.

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| President | Terri Friesen | Phone: 02 6025 366, 0402 732 654 Email: johnterrifriesen@gmail.com |
| Secretary | Kathy Bruce | Phone: 02 6025 5913 Email: kathleenbruce@bigpond.com |
| Treasurer | Tony Smit | Phone: 0438 402 499 Email: ajs48@bigpond.com |
| Committee Members | Jill Scanlon (Vice President) Judy Balfour Leonie McClelland John Stevenson Laurie Gay | Phone: 0412 477 804 Email: kevin.scanlon@bigpond.com Phone: 0439 953 903 Email: jybalfour@outlook.com Phone: 0428 105 010 Email: mccllelland50@gmail.com Phone: 02 6026 2959 Email: Trains13@bigpond.com Phone: 0412 364 209 Email: lauriegay8@gmail.com |
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| Website Editor | Barb Strand, Tony Smit | Phone: 0412 688 507 Email: martinstrand@westnet.com.au |
| Monthly Life Drawing (1 st Saturday) | Olga Juskiw | Phone: 0447 770 735 Email: olga.juskiw@icloud.com |
| Monthly Acrylics & Mixed Media (2 nd Saturday) | Jill Scanlon | Phone: 0412 477 804 Email: kevin.scanlon@bigpond.com |
| Monthly Portraits (3 rd Saturday) | Janelle Hoban- | Ph: 0401 919 813 Email: janellehoban40@gmail.com |
| Workshops | Judy Balfour | Phone: 0439 953 903 Email: jybalfour@outlook.com |