



ALBURY-WODONGA  
ARTISTS SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

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

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**NOVEMBER 2022**

**Our Gateway Village Studio** is almost surrounded by water! Sandbags are piled up at the end of the pathway next to the end of our building. You can see the river Murray flowing fast behind the trees, and forget about a picnic behind the studio, you will get more than your feet wet!



***To do this month:***

- Set aside a time to paint at the studio! Plenty of water birds around.
- Prepare your next painting for exhibition changeover at the Wodonga Plant Farm.
- Bring some friends to the Plant Farm, view the artworks, buy Christmas presents.
- Visit Gigs Gallery to see Terri Friesen's exhibition, then later in the month, Pat Welch's exhibition.
- Come to the General Meeting Wed 16th and Portrait Session Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Add in your diary **AWAS Christmas, December 10<sup>th</sup>**, La Maison, 4pm to 6pm.

## AWAS EVENTS THIS MONTH

Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> November	LIFE DRAWING 1 – 4pm <b>CANCELLED THIS MONTH</b>	Coordinator: Olga Juskiw 0447 770 735
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Acrylic/Mixed Media group 10 - 4pm	Coordinator: Jill Scanlon 0412 477 804
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> November	PORTTRAITS 1 – 4pm	Coordinator: Janelle Hoban 0401 919 813
Wednesdays.	“Social group”. Paint / Chat.	
Tues, Thurs, Fri, Saturday, Sunday.	All members are welcome. Daily access for members. Note Saturday Market 8-12 am	Informal.
<b>Meetings</b>		
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	General Members’ Meeting 1.30pm	Items, Apologies, ideas for discussion to: Secretary: K Bruce 0497 108 076 or kathleenbruce@bigpond.com
<b>Special Events</b>		
New studio Exhibition Nov 30th		Coordinator Jill Scanlon
<b>Wodonga Plant Farm Exhibition</b>	<b>“SPRING SEASON”</b> Continues until December 13 <sup>th</sup>	Coordinator: Tanya Healy 02 6056 2869 0407 238 923

## AWAS EXHIBITIONS

**Studio Gallery.** Please bring in some new paintings to hang in the studio to replace those from the Members’ Annual Exhibition. (Remember to sign work in and out). The new works on our studio walls will stay over the holiday season, so perhaps some specifically local scenes would be appropriate. (Landscapes? Waterscapes??)

**Wodonga Plant Farm Café.** This month there is a changeover of exhibitions. Come to the Plant Farm after 2.30pm on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December to collect your “Spring Seasons’ paintings. Bring one or two replacements to be hung that afternoon in our “Summer Sale” exhibition, which continues until 14<sup>th</sup> February. It is an appropriate time to bring out paintings which would be suitable for gifts- decorative and not too expensive.



*Painting by Deborah Allen*



## SPOTLIGHT ON KYLIE WALDON: *EXHIBITING YOUR ARTWORK.*

### Petrified of Showing Your Work?

I guess there is a hump or a closet for all artists that exists when it comes to showing others your artwork. Whether it's just another person or at an exhibition. And painting with other artists can seem daunting.

I know I felt like that when I returned to the art society after a 20 year gap. I had been a closet artist for years. The only people who knew I painted was my family, and they were often harsh critiques – expecting Rembrandts from a gouache/acrylic artist who loves colour is never going to impress. I also had an active inner critique that caused a lot of artwork to be burnt, ripped and binned because it 'wasn't good enough'.



*This is a photo of me from 2013 with my first painting with the acrylics group and the first one I exhibited then.*

I remember that first exhibition in 2013 like it was yesterday. I had been ill in my stomach for days. I had sweaty palms. I nearly passed out when I arrived to put my paintings in at the Wodonga Plant Farm. There were lots of artists and lots of amazing works. I didn't know anyone there except for one artist, and all the works looked way better than mine that I nearly ran home!

But I did it. I put my artwork in. I met lots of other artists, none of whom I could remember their names, and I visited the gallery four times during the month. I didn't sell my artwork, but my goodness I did feel like a huge hump had been crossed and I was out of the closet as an artist. I'd always felt my art was different, and was often also told this was so, which never made me feel accepted, but now I had achieved this one little (huge) step I would recommend it to anyone.

The second thing I did was attend the Acrylics Group (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month). Again, very confronting. I was so daunted by what everyone else was painting and how to use acrylics in different ways, their styles and their amazing works that I felt like a fish out of water. I told myself I would never be as good as these artists. But do you know, slowly I learned that I don't have to be the best artist ever. I don't have to compare my work to anyone else's work. We are all different. A buyer doesn't compare artwork so much; they look at each painting and if it means something to them or there is something about that painting that they like, then they buy it. In those early days I was petrified about being on the causeway on my own and nearly passed out if someone said they wanted to buy a painting or card!

Now I just focus on my own work and try to improve myself now and then or when I have time (I work full time!). I love trying new techniques, making lists of what I would like to paint and meeting new people and their art, even though just a few years ago that scared the heck out of me. And selling that first painting... well... no matter how much \$\$ it was its like B L I S S. And now I enjoy talking to the public when they come in, encouraging new members, and taking money for cards.

So, I really recommend taking a first step; come out of the closet as an artist. Share yourself and your work with other artists and you'll find yourself grow and improve in ways you never expected. If you're not sure what to do or how, there are plenty of artists in the society who know – just ask one of them! The buzz I get from interaction with artists may generate painting after painting weeks later. And I would recommend finding a like-minded group; one or several people you can paint with and enjoy that experience. As a member you can access the gallery on the causeway any time. Take advantage of it. Painting with others is great. Without judgement. With cuppa breaks. And turn off that internal critique just for a while. Be brave and take the first step. You can do it! I look forward to seeing you and your artwork when you are ready!

## AWAS MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to new AWAS member Farhad Nabavi. He works in oils, pastel and acrylics, so we look forward to seeing him at the studio sometime and perhaps have his work included in our changing exhibitions in the studio and the Wodonga Plant Farm.

For those who have paid their current AWAS membership, your new AWAS membership card is available to be collected from the studio meeting room. You can use your card to obtain discounts from local art related businesses such as framers. You can use them further afield as well, for example, Eckersley's Art Supplies in Wagga Wagga.

## AWAS CHRISTMAS SEASON

La Maison will host our Christmas drinks and nibbles event this year.

**Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 4pm to 6pm** (food served 4.30 to 5.30) approx. \$30 per head

AWAS pays for your first glass of wine. RSVP to the Secretary please as soon as possible.

In December you may like to get together with other members for a light lunch at Wodonga Plant Farm on exhibition changeover Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>.

Don't forget to book your table as it is a busy time for them.



## AWAS Workshops

### The Pastel Workshop with Steve McCall

Unfortunately I have had to again postpone the one-day pastel workshop with Steve McCall. Steve has been overseas and now has a very full schedule at the Bright Art Gallery. You may know that Steve is the manager of that gallery and of course, it is then getting close to Christmas and holidays.

I'm planning to run the workshop on a Friday in April. Maybe you are a pastellist who didn't enroll already or maybe you're a member who would like to give pastel a try out (you needn't buy pastels if you don't have any – contact me). It will be a relaxed fun day.

Judy Balfour (0439 953 903)

Workshop coordinator.

## 2023 January Life Drawing 4- Day Marathon 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> January

This has proved a popular workshop for artists. It is a chance to focus on improving observation skills and developing confidence in using your chosen art medium. You can choose as many of the sessions as you wish. The coordinator has booked models for each session. Contact the coordinator Olga Juskiw: 0447 770 735 for details.

### Future AWAS Tutored Workshops

During the holiday period you may visit galleries and perhaps meet some artists whose techniques you would like to learn more about. We are looking for ideas for workshops and possible tutors.

Many of us would like some one-day workshops, ideally with local artists/tutors, so accommodation and transport does not need to be factored in to the workshop cost. Contact the workshop coordinator, Judy Balfour with your ideas.

## REPORT: THE MVSRG FAMOUS FAKES AUCTION: HELD on OCTOBER 22<sup>nd</sup> Splitters Creek Community Centre



After the Auction I received this email from Lyn Frauenfelder:

*Dear Artists*

*Thanks to your wonderful artwork our auction on the 22nd October was very successful.*

*The paintings gave everyone a lot of pleasure, in both looking at it and buying it.*

*The auction raised over \$15000 which will enable the Murray Valley Sanctuary Group to continue to support and assist new settlers to integrate into the Albury Wodonga community.*

*After 3 years of not being able to raise funds due to Covid, this financial boost is very gratefully received. Enjoy the images of the amazing event that you all contributed to, in doing so made it so successful.*

*So much appreciated,  
Lynette and Meg*





## Congratulations

to AWAS member Jenny Wallace. She was awarded the best watercolour in the King Valley Art Show last weekend with this painting "Winter at Lake William Hovel".



She says the painting was done on site on a wet and cold day in June 2019. She used wet-in-wet technique to get the atmospheric effects on the day. Minor tweeking was done at home when the painting was totally dry.

Just lately it has been a bit wet and cold- perhaps this can be inspiration for us to get out there and paint those amazing skies.

### This is the Current Committee and Coordinators

President	Christina Zey	Ph: 0410 511 211 Email: <a href="mailto:cristina2zei@gmail.com">cristina2zei@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Kathy Bruce (newsletter editor)	Ph: 02 6025 5913 Email: <a href="mailto:kathleenbruce@bigpond.com">kathleenbruce@bigpond.com</a>
Treasurer	Tony Smit	Ph: 0438 402 499 Email: <a href="mailto:ajs48@bigpond.com">ajs48@bigpond.com</a>
Committee Members	Jill Scanlon (Vice President) Leonie McClelland Terri Friesen Laurie Gay Janelle Hoban Donna Johnstone	Ph:0412477804 Email: <a href="mailto:kevin.scanlon@bigpond.com">kevin.scanlon@bigpond.com</a> Ph: 0428 105 010 Email: <a href="mailto:mcclelland50@gmail.com">mcclelland50@gmail.com</a> Ph: 02 6025 366 Email: <a href="mailto:johnterrifriesen@gmail.com">johnterrifriesen@gmail.com</a> Ph: 0412 364 209 Email: <a href="mailto:lauriegay8@gmail.com">lauriegay8@gmail.com</a> Ph: 0401 919 813 Email: <a href="mailto:janellehoban40@gmail.com">janellehoban40@gmail.com</a> Ph: 0411 229 437 Email: <a href="mailto:johnstonedonna@gmail.com">johnstonedonna@gmail.com</a>
Plant Farm Exhibition coordinator	Tanya Healy	Ph: 02 6056 2869 Email: <a href="mailto:tanyakerr188@gmail.com">tanyakerr188@gmail.com</a> Ph: 0407 238 923
Website Editor	Barb Strand, Tony Smit	Ph: 0412 688 507 Email: <a href="mailto:martinstrand@westnet.com.au">martinstrand@westnet.com.au</a>
Monthly Life Drawing (1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday) 1-4pm	Olga Juskiw	Ph: 0447 770 735 Email: <a href="mailto:olga.juskiw@icloud.com">olga.juskiw@icloud.com</a>
Monthly Acrylics & Mixed Media (2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat)	Jill Scanlon	Ph: 0412 477 804 Email: <a href="mailto:kevin.scanlon@bigpond.com">kevin.scanlon@bigpond.com</a>
Monthly Portraits (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat) 1-4pm	Janelle Hoban-	Ph: 0401 919 813 Email: <a href="mailto:janellehoban40@gmail.com">janellehoban40@gmail.com</a>
Tutored Workshops	Judy Balfour	Ph: 0439 953 903 Email: <a href="mailto:jybalfour@outlook.com">jybalfour@outlook.com</a>



**GIQS** Art Gallery and Studios

*Slow Down*  
By Pat Welch

*Local landscapes and botanicals in watercolour*

8th November to 3rd December

**Official Opening**  
and meet the artist

**Friday 11 November 5.30 to 7.30**

Drinks and nibbles

*In the natural world we can let go and just be*

Gateway Island, Lincoln Causeway  
Wodonga VIC 3690

*Little Moments*  
2022

**ART PRIZE**  
& Exhibition

Artworks on display from 6th December 22 - 14th January 23

**Opening Night and Prize presentation**  
Friday 9th December 5:30 to 7:30pm

Local and regional artists are invited to submit entries to Gateway Island Gallery & Studios annual Small Works Art Prize.

**Gateway Island, Lincoln Causeway  
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