



Society of Artists
NEWCASTLE INC.

Society Newsletter

AUGUST 2021

NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY AUGUST 31 AT 1.00PM.

Please note:

* There is to be a **\$2 entry fee to the meeting which becomes your lucky door prize ticket** - prize is either a \$25 voucher for Aaron Framed it or Adamstown Newsagency.

Jim Woodbury will do his talk on printmaking at this meeting.

President's Report – August 2021

First, I have to ask, how are your paintings going for the 2021 Newcastle Art Prize? I'm sure you're putting the final touches to any number of masterpieces. And even if you're not intending to exhibit this year, I'm sure you're looking forward to viewing the terrific range of art that, in my estimation, has been improving year by year.

Now for a story to be filed under 'How bizarre was that?', we recently received a reply from the Crown Lands Department to our expression-of-interest to convert our current perpetual lease to full ownership by purchasing the land on which our building is located. In it, they stated that the legislation does not provide for the sale of perpetual leasehold lands. Well, one has to wonder why they sent us a letter (some three years ago now) inviting us to make an application, and also failed to mention this small detail in many subsequent communications by phone and email. Did I mention that the Department's Land Titles office was privatized by the State Government in the interest of cost savings and efficiency? Hmmmm...

For the second month in a row we've had to cancel the Members' Meeting due to the ongoing Covid restrictions. Whilst Jim Woodbury was willing to present his talk on print making, it was agreed that it wasn't fair to him, and would probably have been to a small audience of those willing to come out. Fingers crossed that Jim's talk will go ahead at the August meeting on 31st.

Happy painting,

Hugh Cross

President

50 Years Young!

That's right, this year marks our 50th anniversary since the Society was formed in 1971.

The Society of Artists had its beginnings at a gathering held at the house of Sybil Hough at Stockton in December 1970. There, a discussion between Bill Freeman, Jo Hanrahan and Sybil, led to the inaugural meeting at Bill's place in Minmi in February 1971. Jo Hanrahan was a real mover and shaker, playing an important role to the overall success of the society.

Being pre-internet, there were always a huge number of attendees to the monthly meetings, so much so that they couldn't all fit into the hall and often had to stand along the sides and at the back doors!

The inaugural general meeting was held at the Technical College at Tighes Hill on 5 May 1971, with the first sketch days being held at Bill's place. One of the first paint-outs was at Dudley Beach and artist Douglas Dundas tutored one of the first workshops. The Society's first exhibition was held at the newly opened Jays Art Gallery.

In 1975, the Society moved into the former Cooks Hill High School, operating as the Arts Centre until the school was reclaimed in 1988. The following year, the Society moved into the Community Arts Centre in Parry Street, renting some larger rooms on the second floor for \$35 a week. The school was called the Community Arts and Adult Education Centre. The Society was incorporated in late 1988 under the name Society of Artists Newcastle, Inc.

On the 3rd September, 2002, the society unanimously voted to purchase the Lambton Ladies Bowling Club, moving in in December 2002. And in 2017 we expanded the rooms by the addition of the Ron (Joe) Donkin Gallery which enabled us to run multiple activities concurrently, and to hold regular mini-exhibitions of members' work. These rooms have served our members well, providing all the facilities needed to hold meetings, workshops, exhibitions, and to store exhibition display panels, our library and other supplies.

We are virtually unique amongst community art societies in owning such a facility which enables social art every week day, as well as weekend workshops, underpinning our core mission – to provide space to engage in our personal art and develop our skills and artistic interests with others of like mind.

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Today the Society is some 300+ members strong, with members from all over Newcastle and the lower Hunter and Lake Macquarie. The Society's premier annual exhibition is the *Newcastle Art Prize*, which until 2014 was known as the *Newcastle Mattara Art Prize*, as it coincided with Newcastle Council's Mattara Festival. Since 2014 the *Newcastle Art Prize* has been held at the Adamstown Uniting Church which makes us very welcome each year.

The Society for many years also held an annual exhibition, for member's only, at the Raymond Terrace Shopping Centre. Another annual exhibition that has been growing in prominence is the *Unique Faces of the Hunter Portrait Exhibition* featuring works by the Monday portrait group, featured as the Portrait Painters Hunter (PPH).

The committee is planning to celebrate our first 50 years at the annual Christmas Party which will be held in the early evening on Tuesday 30th November.



Covid Safe Practices

18 months into this pandemic we might have hoped that the need for masks and other Covid-safe measures would not be as onerous as in the first half of 2020, but the recent Sydney outbreaks have dashed those hopes. However, we can see that everyone is well versed in what to do; check in, wear a mask indoors, and maintain social distancing and personal hygiene. For that we thank you! We also hope that you have been getting your vaccines.

We are all in this together and we know that we must consider the safety of others ahead of any personal effort or inconvenience, particularly as we cannot know what known or unknown medical condition others in the same room as us may have. So please keep up the good work and if you have the slightest symptoms that suggest you may be unwell, please stay at home.

We also ask that if you have any issue with any of the Government prescribed health measures, such as not being able to wear a mask for a medical reason, that you consider the safety of others and not come. After all, none of us can know absolutely whether we have been infected with Covid, and not wearing a mask indoors puts other members at risk.

Hugh Cross, President

Art Director News

Workshops The Beginner Oils workshops with Bob Saxon in June was a great success, with participants completing some impressive landscapes and portraits. To those who were on the waiting list and missed out, you will be pleased to know that Bob has agreed to follow up with a two-day workshop next year. You will need to register as soon as the information is released later in the year because those who did attend will be keen to line up again.

Next up is Hugh Cross with Marine Reflections which is also full and has a waiting list. Unfortunately, Karen Bloomfield's workshop will not be going ahead in August as Karen lives on the Central Coast and is in lockdown. This is very disappointing, but I know we all wish Karen well and cannot wait until we can welcome her to Newcastle. The Art Director will be in touch with those who have registered to let them know about alternate arrangements. So far, no other tutors are in lockdown areas currently, but as we know, the situation is fluid and can change.

If you want to do a workshop there is still an opportunity before the end of the year. Introduction to Figure Drawing with Melody Jones still has a few spaces on the 6th and 7th November 2021. To register email Kelly.annmaree@gmail.com or SMS 0417261891. A \$50 deposit will secure your position.

The committee have ratified an increase in the non-members fee for workshops. It will now be \$20 per day above the members' price. It certainly makes membership an attractive option.

Masks are required to be worn during all workshops in accordance with the NSW government health orders as well as check-in with the Service NSW app.

Exhibitions The RJD Gallery exhibitions have certainly developed over the past year and are now an integral part of our activities. Each month the quality of artwork improves. We have extended the hanging space by using the corridor into the main room and this allows for another dozen paintings or so. A new sign will soon be installed outside the gallery and this should attract more visitors.

The **next exhibition** is the weekend of the **28th and 29th August 2021** which **coincides** with the **Hunter Art Bazaar** in Lambton Park. Drop off paintings on Friday 27th between 1:00 and 3:00pm or by prior arrangement. There will also be an opportunity to extend the hanging time to take advantage of another community event. An email will be sent to members shortly from the Art Director with important information about these exhibitions, so please keep an eye on your inbox.

Ann-Maree Kelly - Art Director.

BOB SAXON WORKSHOP 10/11 JULY 2021

On the weekend of July 10 and 11 Bob Saxon held a Beginners Oil Painting weekend. The first day was all about landscape painting (photo below of Bob demonstrating) with the second day being devoted to Portrait painting. All participants had a good weekend.

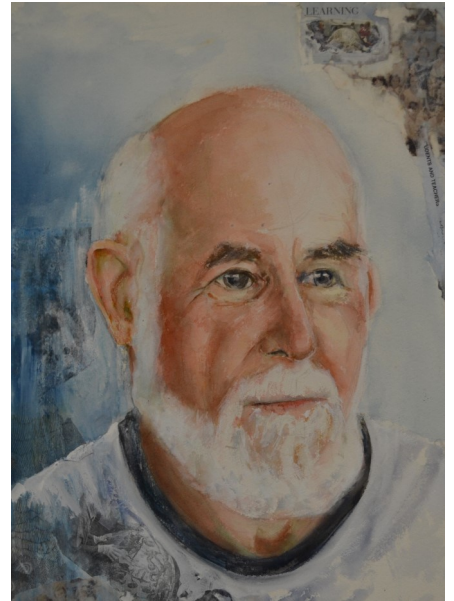


Monday Portrait Painters

“Following is another selection of portraits painted for the March exhibition of ‘Unique people of the Hunter’:



Michael Pigretti by Richard Kerney



Allan Briggs by Roberta Wiseman



Nyibeni by Suzie West

Sue Linton Self portrait



Courtney Spencer by
Susan Webb



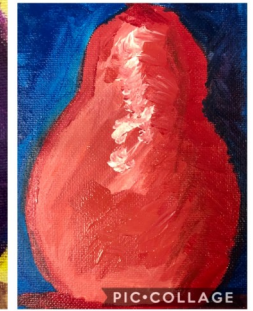
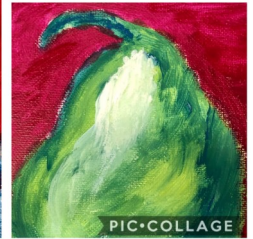
Urban Sketchers

Here are a few examples of what our urban sketchers got up to on Saturday July 24. A cold windy day, but they managed to produce some great work.



stARTers Group

Below are paintings recently produced by the stARTers group. This group meets of a Tuesday morning. It is a fantastic introduction to art. Allowing participants to learn about art.



Chinese Landscape Painting Workshop

Stephen Cassettari will be holding a workshop at Lambton rooms

SATURDAY 21 AUGUST

From: 10am to 4pm

Cost: \$50 per day

Contact: Stephen on 0413 570190



Lauren May Sahu-Khan Watercolour Class

Same as last time- bring your own kit and project along to work on and Lauren will be available to advise, assist and demonstrate any drawing and watercolour painting techniques that you're interested in improving upon

IF you are interested in coming along and joining fellow watercolourists for a relaxing and fun afternoon then please **contact Lauren directly**. Lauren requires numbers for the classes to adhere to Covid rules.

Date: Thursday 5th August

Time: 1 –4pm

Cost: \$30

Phone: 0421 517 075

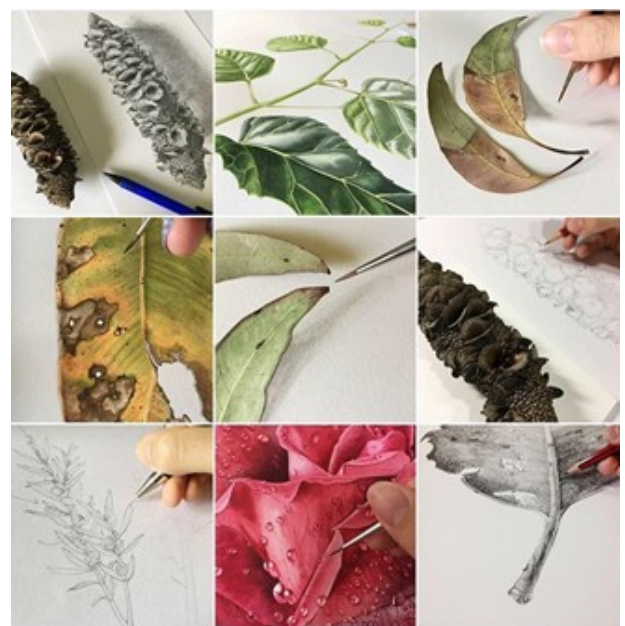
Email: Lauren@laurenmayask.com.au

Website: www.laurenmayask.com.au

Future date for Lauren's class:

Thursday 2 September 2021

***Please note, this class is held in the main rooms, allowing plenty of room for everyone to spread out ***



ART REQUIRED

Our rooms have been contacted by Evans & Wislang, solicitors and conveyancers at Kotara regarding the opportunity for artists to provide art for their conference space.

Evans and Wislang are situated in OTP House, Level 2, 10 Bradford Close Kotara.

Contact details: Phone 49525344

Email: enquiries@evansandwislang.com.au

Weekly members activities

Activities at the rooms cost \$5 each - includes tea/coffee & utility, expenses (rates, power etc).

Although we now have a cleaner contracted for limited activity, it is still our individual responsibility to keep our rooms clean. Easels should be cleaned down, eg pastel dust and/or paint wiped off.

The Toilet area and kitchen area should also be left clean. If you wash dishes please do so thoroughly, wipe them over with paper towel and place back where you found them.

Each and every member is required to clean down their desk with spray and paper provided in the rooms.

COVID is still with us so masks must be worn whilst indoors, only three people in the kitchen at any one time, maintain social distancing and if you are unwell stay at home!.

[More details about weekly and regular art activities and workshops for 2021 can be found on the society's website.](#)

MONDAY

9.30am - 12.30pm

Portrait Drawing and Painting

(\$10 payable weekly for provision of a model)

Wayne Berrigan 49282319

Denise Johns 0418 687467

1.00pm - 4.00pm

Contemporary Group

Mainly acrylic, watercolour and mixed media

Jill Campbell 49434352 or 0402 321812

TUESDAY

9.30am-12.30pm

Social Art (Oils) (All Welcome)

1.00pm-4.00pm

Tuesday Afternoon 1.00-4.00pm

stARTers - an afternoon for anyone wanting to get started or resume their art.

Bring along your art you are working on, your own art materials and our experienced tutor is there to guide you.

(Cost is \$15 per week)

**Note: Group does not meet on the last Tuesday of the month.)

For further information:

Jill Campbell 0402 321812

Jackie Maundrell-Hall

0451 854 354

jmaundrellhall@gmail.com

LAST Tuesday of each month

1.00pm Society of Artists Member's meeting
(all members and visitors welcome).

WEDNESDAY

9.00am-11.30am

Chinese Painting

Stephen Cassettari 0413 570190

10.00am - 1.00pm

Social Art - the RJD Gallery

Gill Miles 0417 217335

12.30pm-3.30pm

Soft Pastel Class

Gwendolin Lewis

0420 298611

5.30pm-8.00pm

Social Art (all media)

Mainly Acrylic but all media fine. **Please phone Lisa if intending to come.**

Lisa Gaudron 0427 571359.

THURSDAY

10am until 1pm

Main Room: **SOCIAL ART**

All welcome

Jo Donkin Room: **MIXED MEDIA GROUP**

Gill Miles: 0417217335

WATERCOLOUR GROUP with tutor

1.00 - 4.00pm Cost: \$30

Dates: 8 July, 5 Aug, 3 Sep

contact Tutor for more information and to register.

Lauren May Sahu-Khan 0421 517 075

lauren@laurenmayask.com.au

FRIDAY

10am-1.00pm

Friday Art Group

General painting in all mediums plus any desired assistance with colour & composition.

Kath Loudon 49526902

(Friday 10am—2pm only)

9.00 on location

Outdoor painting group

30th July 'Joe's secret spot' at Carrington, off Elizabeth Street. (bit of a walk, bridge over train tracks to harbour) ps. It's a secret!

August 6th Joe's secret spot, off Elizabeth Street, Carrington

August 13 and 20th. Cedar Hill Drive, Minmi.

August 27th. Washing Machines. Corner of Denison Street and Maitland Road, Mayfield.

September 3rd and 10th. Foreshore Park, near Nobby's Beach.

September 17 and 24th. End of George Street Mayfield, at the BHP end.

Cheers all, Jim and Bob.

Contact: Jim Woodbury 0419 991338

SATURDAY

Watercolour group - last Sat of month **ONLY**

10.00am - whenever

URBAN SKETCHERS

August dates

Sat 14 Lane behind Scottys on Zaara St

Sat 28 Duckpond Walk Cain St Redhead opposite Barnes Lane.

Contact: Phil Bamford 0408 483143

Note: new day on Thursdays

ART SUPPLIERS SPECIALS

Information sourced from emails sent to editor— check dates of sale online.

SENIORS FINE ART SUPPLIES

20% off Baohong block rough 125 x 180 \$17.56

20% off Daniel smith 12 colour of inspiration Half pan set tin \$143.32

20% off Stay wet palette by Neef Now \$29.56

25% off U.GO Plein Air Anywhere Pochade Box 6x8 Inch Now \$191.21

ADAMSTOWN NEWSAGENCY

15% off Bombay Ink Sets

10% off Daniel Smith 15ml tubes.

25% off Schmincke Aerocolor set of 9 Inks

20% off Gansai Tambi Sets of 24 and 36

15% off Arches Pads

15% off Les Darlow Pan Pastel Sets

EXCERSLEYS

Up to 40% paints and accessories.

Up to 20% off Mediums and varnishes

Up to 24% off Drawing and Illustration

Up to 35% off Surfaces

Up to 10% off Craft

* Spend and save with bonuses

ART SUPPLIES AUSTRALIA

35% off Daniel Smith Artists watercolour (until Mon 2 Aug).

Up to 50% off Liquitex professional heavy body acrylics (59ml tubes and sets)

35% off Winsor and Newton Oil Liquin Medium (until Mon 2 Aug)

Up to 40% off Luca/Artworks premium canvas unprimed cotton

32% off Reeves Artists Paper pads (until Mon 9 Aug)

35% off Winsor and Newton Designer's Gouache Colour (Until Mon 9 Aug)

The Singleton Art Prize

Many of our Society of Artists members entered **The Singleton Art Prize**.

Bob Saxon's 'Avon Reflections' was the **overall winner** of The Singleton Art Prize as well as winner of the **Traditional Prize section**. Each award attracts a \$1,500 cash award. Judge's comments -

'A 'standout' of a painting, movement and vibrance beautifully controlled.'

Congratulations to all our members who entered paintings with special congratulations to Bob for both section wins.

Below is a photo of Bob's painting "Avon Reflections"



2021 Yancoal Singleton Art Prize hosted by Rotary Club of Singleton on Hunter.

Art Exhibition and fine art sale. There were hundreds of entries for the 2021 Singleton Art Prize, one of Australia's most prestigious regional art competitions.

Whats on at the Galleries.

NEWCASTLE ART GALLERY

WARWAR: The Art of Torres Strait - 29 May to 22 Aug

2021 - WARWAR is a traditional Western Island word in the Meriam Mer language, which translates into English as 'marked with a pattern'. The exhibition WARWAR: The Art of Torres Strait developed with renowned artist and curator Brian Robinson showcases the contemporary arts practice that has developed within the Torres Strait and in cities scattered across the Australian Continent. It explores issues of cultural maintenance, Christianity, language and the impact of globalisation on the physical environment of the Torres Strait Island.



KILGOUR PRIZE 2021— The KILGOUR PRIZE is now in its eleventh year. One of Australia's major art prizes, it will award \$50,000 for the most outstanding work of art, and a Peoples Choice of \$5000 to the painting voted most popular by the general public.

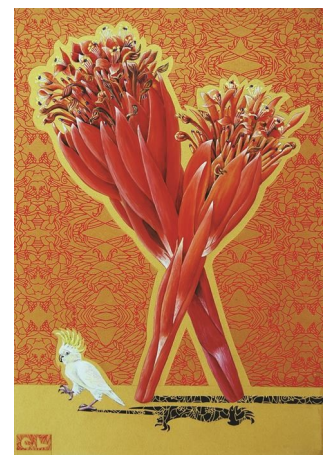
Finalists include: Lisa Adams, Gillian Adamson, Matteo Bernasconi, Jackson Booth, Catherine Boreham, Julie-Ann Brown, Simon Brown, Daniel Butterworth, Emily Jayne Carroll, John Dahlsen, Archer Davies, Rachelle Disting, John Earle, David Fairbain, Nick Fintan, Christine Fontana, Miriam Fraser, Michael Lindeman, Nunzio Miano, Robert O'Connor, Nathan Paddison, Lori Pensini, Alice Pulvers, James R Randall, Zeljaka Reljan-Music, Grace Kemarre Robinya, Paul Ryan, Jason Tolmie, Mick Turner and Mark Tweedie.

The winner will be announced on Friday 13 August 2021.

MUSEUM OF CULTURE AND ART—BOORAGUL

Art in your community : Natural History

This is an ongoing program of showcase exhibitions at MAC for local artists. In this exhibition our natural world comes alive as science meets art. From bees to banksia, natural history illustrators explore the minutia of life through a variety of media. All works are available for sale. Image to right: Cathy Lane 'Beautiful Bromeliad come march with me 2016.

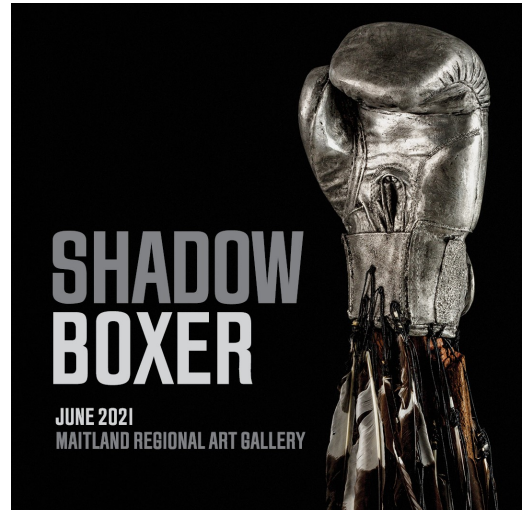


MAITLAND REGIONAL ART GALLERY

Shadow boxer—Various Artists—June 8 to September 26

The boxing ring has long been a compelling site for artists. It has produced many books, songs, painting and films.

What is it about the fight that speaks to artists through the ages and why do some contemporary artists respond so vividly to its grit, history and contest. It highlights this cultural fascination and showcases the work of contemporary Australian artists who explore ideas of race, gender and class and the sheer physicality of boxing in their work. Work by artists: Karla Dickens, Blak Douglas, Richard Lewer, Michael Wilson, Nigel Milsom, Keri Glastonbury, FionaMc Monagle, Bianca ‘Bam Bam’ Elmir and David Mathews.



BARKA, THE FORGOTTEN RIVER | A COLLABORATION BETWEEN BADGER BATES, JUSTINE MULLER AND THE WILCANNIA COMMUNITY

Barka, the forgotten river reflects the love artists Badger Bates and Justine Muller have for the Barka, or Darling River—”our mother and the blood in our veins” and its people the Barkandji. Poetic and political at once, the works of Badger Bares and Justine Muller reach to the past to inform the future, because all time is one. Motivated by a deep concern for the collapse and near-disappearance of the Barka-Darling River—something that will have ripple effects Australia wide.

Works in the exhibition by Badger span the past two decades combined with Muller’s more recent responses to the region and its people. They take the form of ceramics, leadlight, lino print, wood and steel sculpture and painting in addition to a multi-media installation.



Above: Justine Muller “River of Hope”

IMPRESSIONS OF A JOURNEY: LANDSCAPES BETWEEN WALCHA AND PATERSON | PAULA JENKINS June 5—August 29

Paula Jenkins grew up near Paterson in the NSW Hunter Valley; a place of fond memory for the artist where she grew up swimming in the river and exploring bushland. For the last 13 years she has called Walcha home. During this time Paula has made many journeys between Walcha and Paterson, along the Thunderbolts Way, observing the vast and interesting landscapes between the two places. This exhibition will be a display of these landscapes captured in oil on canvas, and gouache on paper.



Above: Paula Jenkins “The Descent” into the gorge.

SMAC STUDIO

TWO by TWO

An exhibition by Two Painters and Two printmakers.

Painters: Leigh Dennis, Jackie Maudrell-Hall and

Printmakers: Steph Berick and Carol Archer

Come along and experience the varied and interesting art on display.



ART SYSTEMS WICKHAM



FLOWERS, FEATHERS & FINGS

JACQUELINE IMMENS – McCOY

JUL 30 – AUG 8 2021

OPENING CELEBRATION

SATURDAY JULY 31

FROM 3pm

ASW GALLERY

40 ANNIE ST WICKHAM 2293

Hours: 11am to 4pm Fri to Sun

or by appointment other days

WWW.ART-SYSTEMS-WICKHAM.COM

ENQUIRIES – 0431 853 600