



ART EXPRESS

Bulletin No 165

July—August Date 2011

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Greetings members,

Don't forget! The August social meeting has been brought forward to 2.00pm Sunday 31st July, and will combine an afternoon tea (bring a plate) with our Annual General Meeting and lots of changeovers.

Congratulations to Rod Cameron, whose 'Two Blues' took out the Most Popular Painting prize for our Annual Awards Show. Marg Lawlor won the raffle prize. The ongoing show has been rehung using artworks remaining from the Annual Awards; if you are a paid-up ongoing exhibition participant, you would be welcome to have artworks added to this display. There is a collection of named packaging from the Annual Awards in the Merri View Gallery storeroom – please remember to remove yours.

I remind you to add your names to the attendance list for our 50th Anniversary Lunch on 14th August. Please do not yet pay your \$25 per head charge – it's easier if we all pay on the day. (thank you, though, to members who have done so).

This newsletter marks my last as the current President of the Artists' Society, and I would like to thank all members and Committee members for their support over the three years of my term. I intend to remain on the Committee, as do several other Committee members. At the time of writing, we do not have any nominations for President or Vice President. I will be ringing around to encourage more Committee nominations – the more we have on Committee, the easier it is – and urge you to consider nominating for these two positions. Bear in mind that the Committee is full of supportive people, and that the role of President does not require previous Committee experience. Although the President does chair our meetings, it is not compulsory that he or she also conducts the critiques, or hangs our Annual Awards Show, as I have done. I would like to continue doing these two tasks, but welcome assistance. The Artists' Society is full of nice people.

At our last Committee meeting, we talked about whether to increase membership fees, as this would require approval at the Annual General Meeting. After discussion, we chose not to raise this \$50 charge; instead, we have decided to increase the attendance money payable by members attending meetings or using Merri View Gallery from \$1.00 to \$2.00. I am sure members will recognize the need to respond to increased power and other charges – the recent cold weather means we've burnt a lot of gas. Over the next couple of years, too, we need to continue sprucing up Merri View Gallery – finishing off interior painting, and having the guttering changed. I think an entrance porch would be a worthwhile addition, too.

The next big art event on Warrnambool's cultural horizon is the City of Warrnambool Art Show, in early October. Entry forms are available; they are on the bench below the Local Events board at MVG. We need to have settled who will be our guest artists by the end of September; guest artists can display extra works, and get a brief 'bio' in the catalogue. In the past, we have had two or three representatives who have all been present over the entire weekend, toiling away on artworks. I would this year like to have maybe five or six members on duty, perhaps for a shorter time each; this means we'll have a more diverse display, and can reduce the hours involved for this enjoyable but tiring activity. Also, we will this year mount a display to celebrate our fifty years; if you, or someone you know, has an artwork by a WADAS member produced over this period, please let me know as soon as possible. This display could also feature art materials as actually used by members, so that, for instance, visitors can inspect palettes as they look like in use; again, please contribute to this, even if you are not one of the guest artists. This display will also include our display stand of cards, but bear in mind, when pricing artworks or cards for this event, that a 20% commission is payable to Rotary.

Happy artwork,

Tim Walker



Dates to Remember:

Next Meeting 2.00 pm MVG

WADAS Annual Meeting + Social Meeting Sunday 31st July

Study of Month August = The Bridge

Flagstaff Hill & Cheeseworld Changeovers

Top-up for On Going Exhibition

50th Anniversary Dinner midday

14th August at the Lady Bay

Please add you name to the sheet on the notice board at Merri View Gallery or contact Judy Rauert 55615523 (Cost \$25 per head—pay at venue, Treasurer holding any money already Paid) we do need numbers for the Lady Bay seating

Invite any past members to join in the celebrations add their names to the list please.

Rotary Art Show

Fri 7th — Sun 9th Oct

Entries Close 16th September

Entry forms available at Merri View Gallery

Congratulations to Rod Cameron, whose 'Two Blues' took out the Most Popular Painting prize for our Annual Awards Show. Marg Lawlor won the raffle

W.A.G. 24 July — 4 September

Australian Portraits 1880-1960 paintings from the National Gallery of Australia Collection



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Jokes:

A senior citizen said to his eighty-year old buddy:

'So I hear you're getting married?'

'Yep!' 'Do I know her?' 'Nope!'

'This woman, is she good looking?'

'Not really.'

'Is she a good cook?'

'Naw, she can't cook too well.'

'Does she have lots of money?'

'Nope! Poor as a church mouse.'

'Well, then, is she good in bed?'

'I don't know.'

'Why in the world do you want to marry her then?'

'Because she can still drive!'

Morris, an 82 year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical.

A few days later, the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm.

A couple of days later, the doctor spoke to Morris and said, 'You're really doing great, aren't you?'

Morris replied, 'Just doing what you said, Doc:

'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'

The doctor said, 'I didn't say that.. I said, 'You've got a heart murmur; be careful.'

And One more. . .!

A little old man shuffled slowly into an ice cream parlour and pulled himself slowly, painfully, up onto a stool... After catching his breath, he ordered a banana split. The waitress asked kindly, 'Crushed nuts?'

'No,' he replied, 'Arthritis.'

Little Susie goes home from school and tells her mum that the boys keep asking her to do cartwheels because she's very good at doing them.

Mum said : "YOU should say NO - they only want to look at your undies".

Susie said: " I know they do ... that's why I hide them in my backpack"!!

Tips & Techniques:

Question: Which type of drawing charcoal should I use?

Answer: One of the good things about charcoal is that it is quite cheap, so try to buy a variety to experiment with. **Willow and vine charcoal** give delicate grays and smudge easily, and is wonderful for all kinds of drawing. Choose **compressed charcoal sticks** for a more robust drawing that doesn't smudge so much. Select a medium or soft grade for all-purpose use. Hard charcoals can be a bit scratchy, but are good for fine lines on a strong paper.

Charcoal pencils are basically compressed charcoal, but the timber casing keeps your hands clean, and they are easy to sharpen for fine work. However, they wear out quickly if you are shading big areas.

Always have some fairly soft charcoal pencils or sticks in your paint box. Charcoal allows more flexible handling than an ordinary lead pencil in making the basic sketch on the canvas.

Fixative

A fixative is used to keep the charcoal drawing from smudging; it is sprayed on with a small atomizer. This can be omitted when the sketching is done outdoors, and the surplus charcoal can be dusted off the canvas with a rag or a chamois. Dust lightly so that a faint image remains to guide you in the later painting.

Paint Rags

You have now the painting easel, your medium, your painting knives, and other equipment. You'll be glad to know that the next item in your list is one of the cheapest: Paint Rags! Have enough rags in your paint box for wiping your brushes and palette, and for general cleaning up.

The Sketching Stool

If you prefer to sit while working, you will need a sketching stool. Choose one that is light in weight but sturdily constructed and that will fold up and use as little space as possible when you are carrying the rest of your sketching material. Some painters dispense with a painting easel and instead carry a second stool, on which they set the open paint box with a panel inserted in the lid.

Try New Painting Techniques and Mediums

Hop off the treadmill and try a different medium.

Always using a paintbrush? Then why not try a palette knife.

Using acrylics? Then why not try mixed media or oils on their own.

As an artist we can sometimes fall into the trap of working on autopilot and get a little too comfortable.

Yearly Calendar:

JANUARY	No official Social Meeting
FEBRUARY	CHEESEWORLD SUNGOLD FIELD DAYS ONGOING EXHIBITION + FLAGSTAFF HILL CHANGEOVER
MARCH	
APRIL	
MAY	CHEESEWORLD CHANGEOVER ONGOING EXHIBITION + FLAGSTAFF HILL
JUNE	<i>Annual Awards</i>
JULY	<i>Annual Awards</i> ONGOING EXHIBITION
AUGUST	ANNUAL MEETING FLAGSTAFF HILL + CHEESEWORLD CHANGEOVER
SEPTEMBER	THE LOFT
OCTOBER	ONGOING EXHIBITION
NOVEMBER	CHEESEWORLD FLAGSTAFF HILL
DECEMBER	THE LOFT XMAS BREAKUP

Study of the Month:

August	The Bridge
September	A Cheering Crowd
October	Yellow and Green.
November	A Bowl of Fruit, a Jug of Water.
December	Rushing.

South West Tafe Artists Forums 1—2.30 pm

August 12 Beth Parnaby Printmaker / Sculptor

Sept 2nd Katherine Bird Graphic Designer

More Info. contact 55648799 or

email info@swtafe.vic.edu.au

Artistic Quotes

Every artist dips his brush in his own soul, and paints his own nature into his pictures. ~Henry Ward Beecher

Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep. ~Scott Adams

Painting is just another way of keeping a diary. ~Pablo Picasso



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