

Great Lakes Art Society Newsletter



January February 2021

Patron, John Chadban

34 Lake Street, Forster NSW 2428 • (02) 6557 2880 • www.glas.org.au • Facebook: Lake Street Gallery

Notes from the President

Hello Members,

Happy New Year everybody, I hope you all had a lovely Christmas.

WOW! It's amazing, who could have ever imagined that we could sell over 100 items in one exhibition. Congratulations to all the artists involved in the Under the Bed and Behind the Door. The results have been way beyond our expectations. An enormous thank you to Patricia Mackaway and her team of workers. Thankyou also to Wayne for the publicity and Peter for facebook. An enormous amount of work for our treasurer to cope with over the 2 months period. Thanks George. The final figures of sold items will be known on Monday when announced at the Member's Update.

Ingrid has put in the application for a new grant. The amount of time and effort she has put into preparing it has been absolutely massive. Many thanks to Ingrid, much appreciated.

Art classes are starting again. There are not many available spaces so get in early if you don't want to miss out.

I hope you have been busy getting new works completed for our Open Exhibition. Remember entries have to be sent to Suzanne by the 26th of February, and please come along to Roz's fun afternoon on the 14th February to help raise the funds to pay for your prize money.

Our Val Wright exhibition is part of our new exhibition in the Gallery commencing 5th February. Please bring your friends to the Gallery to see it.

George Cousins has resigned from his position of Treasurer for personal reasons and Patricia Mackaway has stepped up to take his place. Thankyou Patricia. Thankyou George for the tremendous amount of time and effort you have put into the job. Best wishes to George's wife Gaye who has been ill for some time.

Welcome to our new members. I hope you enjoy being part of our group of friendly artists.

Bye for now, Pat Barry, President.

Key Dates

From 2pm Sunday 31 Jan - pick up paintings.

1 Feb - Members update meeting 1pm, Gallery

14 Feb - Bring and Buy Auction

26 Feb - Entries for the Open close

1 March - members update meeting 1pm gallery

25 & 26 March - delivery of works for the Open

27 March - opening of the Open Exhibition

18 April - Open Exhibition finishes.

Note that there will be no members update meeting in April due to the Open exhibition.

Next Newsletter will be for March/April

Welcome to New Members

Maria Evans, Chris Matts,
Jenny Curtis, Jan Chorley



A view of our very successful Behind the Door and Under the Bed Exhibition - just before opening time.



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Your Committee

1. President -
Pat Barry - 0412 190 777
patbarryglas@gmail.com



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2. Vice President 1 -
Peter Everingham - 5591 7171;
0408 716 198; ;
peveringham.art@gmail.com



3

3. Vice President 2 -
Ingrid Horsburgh –
0412 188 544; 6559 7295;
ingrid2430@gmail.com



4

4. Treasurer - Pat Mackaway -
6555 3321; 0407 723 800;
pmackaway5@bigpond.com

5. Secretary - Denise King
0401 761 812;
dkingglas@gmail.com



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6. Committee, Publicity -
Wayne Barry - 6555 7127;
0401 902 330;
wayne_barry@yahoo.com

7. Committee, Roster - Lorraine
Millwood 0410 588 736;
lorraine.milward@gmail.com



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8. Committee, Library -
Julie Hamilton - 0421 725 595;
jules_art@hotmail.com

9. Committee, Newsletter -
Marina Bishop 6553 5268;
marinabishop@gmail.com



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10. Committee - Suzanne
McWilliams - 0438 713 182;
zanna@bigpond.net.au

Committee -

Committee -



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We still need some assistance
from other Members - you don't
have to be on the Committee.
Other positions you could volunteer
to fill, or assist the Coordinator:
Exhibitions, Newsletter,
Fundraising, Events, Membership,
Publicity, Weekend Workshops, Art
Classes.



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If you would like to help grow our
wonderful Art Society and join
a fun group of people working
together, just contact any of the
above Committee. Previous
Committee Members can let you
know what is involved or help you
get to know the routine.



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What's On at your Gallery

Behind the Door and Under the Bed Sale

Report by Patricia Mackaway, Co-ordinator

Well it is with great pleasure that I submit this report to the Newsletter – what a wonderful response we have had since we opened on the 11 December. Initially we opened our normal Friday, Saturday and Sunday and opening each day in the week leading up to Christmas Eve. Closed from 25th December until 2nd January – since then we have opened every day, this being due to Ross Williams going into the gallery to replace a piece he had sold and deciding to open up for the afternoon, the rain brought people in for a look - resulting in 6 sales for that afternoon (thank you Ross) – with the inclement weather on our side the visitors to our beautiful town have been looking for something different to do. We have had flyers and posters throughout the area – radio advertising and a listing on the Barrington Coast website – Wayne Barry has also written an article which appeared in the new Forster/ Tuncurry newspaper (a good read - be sure to pick up a copy).

Up to 24 January, we have had 436 visitors through our doors and we have sold 107 paintings and sculptures to the value of over \$14,035. The feedback in regard to the wonderful works on display and our lovely gallery has been amazing – congratulations to all those who have had success with the sale of their works. I look forward to this being increased over this final week.

The gallery looks fantastic with such a variance of works on display – if you haven't been in for a visit I recommend you do so.

NB: PICK-UP INSTRUCTIONS:

The Behind the Door & Under the Bed Sale closes on Sunday 31 January. I thank each and every one of you that have volunteered to put in a few extra hours when we decided to open every day due the amazing response from our local community and visitors to our wonderful town – THANK YOU !!

With the gallery returning to normal on Monday 1 February starting with the Member Update - it will be necessary to move the portable fixtures and set up the classroom in readiness for the recommencement of the classes this is being done on Sunday afternoon - I ask that you pick up any unsold works from late Saturday

afternoon or from 2.00 on Sunday 31st – if you would like to leave say 2-3 pieces hanging please do so keeping in mind that other members who were not in the sale will want to hang their works in the normal gallery exhibition which will run until the Open. You may wish to alter the prices on works left.

It will be necessary for you to re-enter those pieces in the gallery hanging folder (In the office) and pay the usual hanging fee of \$5 for each piece you leave. The usual 25% commission applies.

If you wish to leave a couple of unframed works -those mounted and covered in cellophane only in the 2 Sale Bins please enter these in the pink folder (on the reception desk) and number each item in accordance with the numbering system in the folder . A reminder - pieces in the Sale Bins should be priced at \$30 or above. No hanging fee applies and the gallery takes 10% on works sold from the bins. There are to be NO works left on the floor.

Should you have any questions please contact me on 0407 723 800 or email me at pmackaway5@bigpond.com

Regards to all and thank you again for your support.

Pat Mackaway, Co-Ordinator

Coming up soon...

2021 Open Art Exhibition Entry Forms due 26 February

(see poster on last page)

Everything is on track for the 2021 GLAS Open Art Exhibition and I hope your paintings are progressing well. Suzanne McWilliams has done a terrific job on the banner and posters, and flyers will be distributed in coming weeks.

Most of you know that the \$6,000 prize money plus approx. \$2,000 costs to run the exhibition, has to be raised by sponsorship and fundraisers. Despite the economic hardship caused by Covid, I am pleased to say that more than half that money has already been banked or pledged. However, \$700 has been donated in goods which I have to convert to cash. Beaches International has given us a 2 night stay in a 2 bedroom apartment worth \$540. This, along with a \$50 meal voucher, is being raffled for the OPEN. If every member buys a \$5 ticket and sells 1 other to gallery visitors, we will have our money plus a profit.

Happy painting and **remember that entry forms must be submitted by Friday 26th February.**

Regards Roz Baker

GLAS Open - Promotions

Forster Library

A new exhibition at the Forster Library will be run in conjunction with the Open Exhibition, March 1 - April 19. Co-ordinator: Julie Hamilton 0421 725 595



'Sneak Peek'

OPEN Exhibition Promotion at Hallidays Point Library, Black Head, 29 March - 23 April

During April we have the opportunity to display about 20 paintings in the gallery of the Hallidays Point Library. Visitors who see your work will be given an invitation to the GLAS Open which will be on at the same time, so they can see many more works by GLAS Artists (and others, of course). The paintings will be for sale and MidCoast Council will take a 30% commission.

If you would like to show one of your works please email Fred Bullen (talina8@bigpond.com) with details covering title, media and size (Width x Height) and price. The painting you offer can't be one you intend entering in the Open, rather another one you would like to sell. It must be ready to hang in accordance with the GLAS gallery hanging requirements.

You will be able to drop off this painting (wrapped and with your name on the outside) to Fred at the Lake Street Gallery on the same day as you deliver your OPEN works, Thursday 25 March 10am - 12 noon.

The first 20 members to take up the offer will be the lucky ones.



The Roster for GLAS

A big Thank You to those who helped

Thank you to everyone who helped with gallery duties for Behind the Door. We were able to open almost full time during the exhibition which meant more visitors and more works sold.

I have crunched the numbers for the last year and it seems 70 members did gallery duty in 2020 which is a great result. Special mention and a special thank you should go to the six people who did the most gallery duty in 2020 – Victoria Dawson, Ross Williams, Pat and Ross Mackaway, Pam Dunne and Julie Hamilton.

As always there still spots in the roster to fill. We have 127 members so if you haven't yet volunteered I would love to hear from you. It is a great way of learning how the gallery operates. I will send out regular reminders but there is also a hard copy of the roster in the gallery for you to put your name in.

Just a reminder that if you have works exhibited in the gallery, you MUST do at least one gallery duty shift per month that the works are there.

If you can help please let me know on - lorraine.milward@gmail.com or 0410 588 736.
Thanks, Lorraine

New Covid requirements:

Everyone visiting the gallery should sign in using QR code. This includes whether you are there for volunteering, a meeting or a class.

Please encourage visitors to use the QR code. This is the simplest thing for us. Just use the camera on your smartphone or iPad to scan the QR code, or choose the webform and simply type your contact details and check in.

If visitors are not able to use the QR, ask their details and write it in the sign-in register. This is now behind the desk in the gallery, for privacy requirements. At the end of the day the register page should be put in the Secretary pigeon hole in the office so that Denise can type it up into a spreadsheet.

Postcode Data

Over January we have been collecting postcodes from gallery visitors to get an idea of just how many locals versus tourists are visiting the gallery. This has sometimes proved a little challenging as not everyone is happy to share this information. So from February the system will be simplified so that we just collect numbers of locals and non-locals. What is a local?

Generally it is someone who lives in Forster or surrounding areas, probably no more than 1 to 1½ hours drive from the gallery.

Greeting Visitors and Answering the Phone

- It's important to present a friendly face to our visitors and to ensure our gallery looks inviting and professional.
- Acknowledge visitors with a smile and verbal greeting. Ask if they have visited the gallery before and tell them a little about the exhibition that is on and the Art Society.
- Take a measure as to whether they seem friendly and want to chat and return their friendliness, OR if they seem shy and don't want to chat, let them browse undisturbed.
- Answer the phone by saying "Good morning/ afternoon Lake Street Gallery [your name] speaking, how may I help you?"

GLAS Art Classes

MONDAY

Pastel Classes - Vicki Bullard 6554 5855 or 0429 506 883. 9.30am to 12.30pm. \$15 per class. Starts 8 Feb. 2 places available.

TUESDAY

Oil Painting - Judy Handebo 0416 484 993
9.30am to 12.30pm or 1pm to 4pm. \$10 per class. Starts 2 Feb - 1 place available.

WEDNESDAY

Art Care Plus - Peter Everingham 0408 716 198
10am - 1pm. \$15 per class. Starts 3 Feb.

THURSDAY

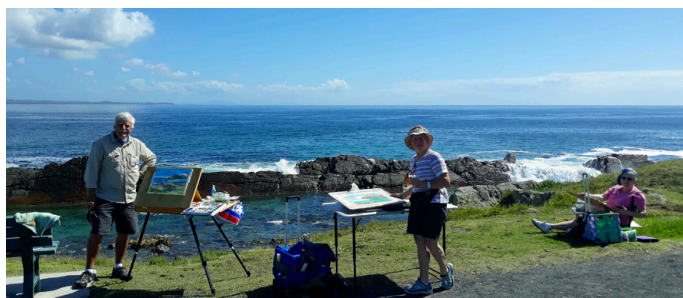
Life Drawing with a model - no tutor.
2nd & 4th Thurs of each month. 2pm - 4pm.
\$20 per session depending on attendance.
Starts Feb 11. You need to book, as there is a limit of 10 members per class. Please confirm with Pam Dunne 0412 736 797 or email: pamdunne@rhalex.com.au

FRIDAY

Watercolours - Wayne Barry 0401 902 330
9.30am to 12.30pm. \$100 for 5 weeks 19 Feb to 19 March. No places available.

SATURDAY

Oils - Marilyn Cranfield 0431 303 528 Starts 20 Feb. Places available. 10am to 1pm. \$30 per class.



Wayne Barry's Watercolour class painting at 'The Tanks', Forster, on 21st Jan. "Turner can stay strapped to his mast. Some of our group actually jumped in to sample the turbulence!"

GLAS Fundraising

BRING & BUY AUCTION

Please keep Sun 14th Feb free for a Bring and Buy Auction. Great Fun and bargains galore. Good books, DVD's and collectables.

PLUS, The Big Spin Chocolate Wheel.

Meal vouchers worth \$50 each, cash prizes, toiletries plus quality wine! Prize pool approx \$400.

Buy 1 \$10 ticket for a dozen spins with a 1 in 6 chance of winning a prize. If you can't attend, ring Roz Baker on 0400 629 768 to secure a ticket.

See **POSTER** on last page.

THE CHRISTMAS HAMPER

The winner of the Christmas Hamper was Peter Everingham. Congratulations Peter! Over \$200 was raised for the Gallery. A great result!

A SPECIAL BIG RAFFLE

Tickets for a new raffle are now available at the gallery. All proceeds to the 2021 Open.

First prize is a 2 night stay in a 2 bedroom apartment with water views (worth \$540) donated by Beaches International, Forster.

Second prize of a \$50 meal voucher from Tuncurry Bowling Club.

Tickets are \$5 each.
Don't let your visitors leave without buying one!

THE CURRENT PAINTING RAFFLE

The current Raffle Prize is a beautiful original pastel by **Amanda McLean**, a professional Australian Landscape artist. Tickets only \$2. This will be drawn at the February Members' Update Meeting on 1st February.

Thank you for your support of our Art Society.

THE NEXT PAINTING RAFFLE

A watercolour by Chan Dissanayake will be the painting raffle for GLAS fundraising during the Open Exhibition.

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

A big thank you to Ross Williams for organising the Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings, Forster. and his team of volunteers We collected over \$450. Thanks to Bunnings too!

Focus on our Members

Each Newsletter we hope to bring you a brief story about one of our Members. This time...

Bettina Digby

What was/is your paid occupation?

I was born and raised in Glen Innes on a grazing property, but I have spent most of my adult life in Sydney. Art was my favourite subject at high school and so I did a Diploma in Art at Alexander Mackie College. For twenty years I was running a creatively focused business, retailing Australian craft-makers work, and raising a daughter.



On selling the business in 1994 I studied Bush Regeneration and Landscape Design and Construction, while I worked for the Nutcote Trust at the house of May Gibbs, the National Trust Bush Regeneration team and eventually in 1997, Randwick City Council, as Bushland and Biodiversity Manager. I also completed two years at the School of Colour and Design and pastel classes at evening college. In 2012 I moved to Bungwahl.

If we looked through your studio door, what would we see?

I have a small alcove for my computer and landscaping and plant books. This opens into a larger room with one wall of shelves containing art books and all my materials. The room has quite a bit of natural light and ventilation and two walls where I hang unfinished works and drawings. I have a permanent easel and two mobile tables. At the moment I have about ten works in various stages of completion.

When would we find you in your studio, or is it just as the inspiration strikes?

If I can, I try to get into the studio from about 9.30am after watering my vegie garden and collecting the eggs, and then work until about 5.00pm. I don't always work every day - the demands of life tend to get in the way. I do try and go to my studio for at least half an hour everyday even if it is just to look at a work in progress. If I am feeling un-motivated I do other things such as put a finish coat on a work. Also for the last few years my routine was frequently interrupted by the demands of GLAS. Now I have retired from the Committee I hope to stick to my routine!

What mediums do you work in?

For drawing I prefer charcoal and Conte. Since retiring I have taken up painting in oils and acrylics. I recently completed an on-line course with an American artist, Nicholas Wilton, which was incredibly beneficial and has advanced my knowledge of acrylics and abstraction. This was a

welcome distraction during the early days of Covid 19 restrictions.

Do you have a favourite subject, theme or cause which you are drawn to?

I love the colours in the Australian landscape and the effects of light. I find I am drawn to the natural world, mostly plants and the geology rather than animals. I like to do figure drawing regularly to keep my drawing hand in. This year I have been working on abstract images - for example I recently drew quick sketches of the wind and the rain in the trees outside my studio.....a big challenge!

What drives you on through those times when the sparks of creativity are not coming?

I only have to see something beautiful in the landscape, be it a tiny shell or an awe-inspiring sky to spark me up again if I'm feeling unmotivated.

What inspired you to become an artist?

I just always loved drawing and painting as a child and in my family it became my 'thing' and continued on from there.

Can you give readers a summary of your time with GLAS?

I joined GLAS in 2014 and the Committee in 2016, retiring this year to concentrate on my art practice. I have worked as Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, President and Exhibitions Coordinator. During my two years as Treasurer, along with the President, Ross Williams, we obtained \$65,000 from two State Government grant funds to renovate the interior of our facility. My partner of thirty eight years, Brett Newbold, an architect, prepared the construction drawings and negotiated with Council and builders, while I oversaw the daily construction works and finances. I retired from the Committee last year.



Above: one of Bettina's artworks.

GLAS Workshops

Some workshops are being discussed - in Oils & Watercolours with Harry Westera, Coloured Pencils and Scratchboard. Look out for news of them! If you have any ideas for future workshops, contact Peter Everingham on 5591 7171; email peveringham.art@gmail.com

ON LINE WORKSHOP

What I did in 2020! By Bettina Digby

At the beginning of 2020, I enrolled in an on-line course from California with abstract artist Nicholas Wilton. Little did I know that within a few short weeks the world would be in the throes of a pandemic and its consequent lock-down of human activities world-wide.

Nicholas' course, the Creative Visionary Program, (CVP) proved to be a blessing. The 12-week course and its delivery were incredibly professional. Using Zoom meetings and Facebook, each week Nicholas presented a new lesson and guest artists presented an information and demonstration session and Nicholas followed these up with a Q & A session. During all sessions the students could type in questions and get immediate answers as well as being able to post images of our work-in-progress for each lesson to a private Facebook site. On this site we could also chat to all the other students, comment on their work and receive comments from them. It was not only fun talking to artists from many different countries, but we also had a great sense of camaraderie as we dealt with the pandemic.

CVP covers all the basics of painting from inspiration, tonal value, colour theory, composition, materials, finishing and presenting work and so much more. It is a program for beginning and experienced artists alike, whether realist or abstract. All the material is available to students on the CVP website, including transcriptions and videos of all the lessons, short bonus videos on making art and instant help for the less-computer literate from two charming IT specialists who are also artists! Everything is on the website for twelve months so you can revise after the course. And the CVP 2020 Facebook site stays open also so the students can continue to talk to each other and post our progress.

I learnt heaps of new things as well as revised and refreshed material I had learnt many years ago. It was truly worthwhile, and I would recommend the course regardless of your experience, enrolments open the beginning of February.

The other great benefit was it introduced me to other art teachers in the UK and USA who also have great blogs. I have been listening to these and chatting to them about my own art problems and solutions all last year. It's been a life saver during lockdowns and isolation! And my work has improved incredibly!

Nicholas website is called Art2Life and here is the link to the CVP page.

<https://www.art2life.com/art2life-creative-visionary-program/>

If you don't do the course there are lots of free things that Nicholas offers on his Art2Life free Facebook page and via his blog. It's just like the GLAS community only international!



Arty Tech Talk -

The Elements of design (or the basic characteristics of the marks we make with our brushes, pencils, pastels or even chisels to some extent)

When we make a mark, that individual mark can be described in terms of its;

- *Tone (or value) which is how light or dark the mark is.*
- *Shape (roundish, angular, organic, geometric etc)*
- *Size (big, little, medium etc)*
- *Colour (hue, temperature, intensity and value - light or dark)*
- *Direction (horizontal, diagonal, vertical etc)*
- *Texture (smooth, rough, broken, spotty etc)*
- *Line (thick, thin, dotted, faded edge - for the watercolourists, etc)*

Remember, these are the basic characteristics of a mark, how we then assemble our marks using our artistic flair, takes us into the realm of the Principles of design. Think of the weather on a specific day; it can be made up of various elements e.g. rain, hail, sunshine, wind etc. People often refer to going out into the elements but once experienced in the course of the day, the resulting weather is a bit like the Principles (God's or Huey's?) of design.

Regards, ARTY

Newsletters

This Newsletter covers information for January and February 2021.

- Seen any interesting exhibitions lately?
- Know of any good art material deals?
- * Found a great spot to paint the landscape?

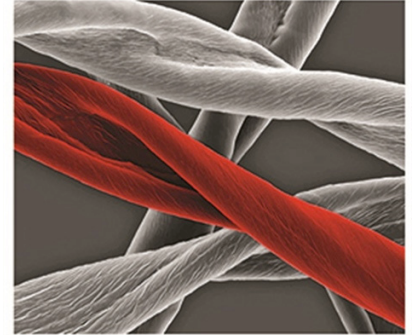
If you have any information to go in the GLAS Newsletter, email it to me (as a Word or text document, please) before the last Monday of the month, at marinabishop@gmail.com **Cheers, Marina**

What's On Elsewhere

Manning Regional Gallery -

**Open Tues - Saturdays 10am to 5pm.
Exhibitions until 14 February 2021.**

TENSION(s): 4th Tamworth Textile Triennial, held every three years, showcases the best of textile art from across the country, attracting artist participation from all states in Australia. Tension(s) 2020: Tamworth Textile Triennial has been curated by Vic McEwan.



"Packed Lost Found" - A collection of visual stories, documenting people's experience through objects that they packed, lost or found during and after the November 2019 MidCoast bushfires. Until 14 February 2021.



"My Country, My Inspiration" an Exhibition by Fred Bullen & Roger Speaight at Gloucester Gallery, 25 Denison St, Gloucester. Open 28 Jan - 21 Feb, Thursdays - Saturdays 10am-4pm & Sundays 10am-1pm.

Thanks to our Sponsors:

Betty Mackinnon
Forster Bowling Club



Reminder!

**Dates for the GLAS Open 2021:
Entries Close...26th February**

Delivery of Works - Members:

Thursday 25th March 10am - 12 noon or

Friday 26th March 10am - 11.30am

Collection of unsold works by hand:

Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st April 10am - 2 pm

Members may leave their works in the Gallery if they choose but they must indicate this on their entry form.

Bring & Buy Auction

with The Big Spin Chocolate Wheel

Sunday 14th February 1.30pm

Proceeds to GLAS Open Art Exhibition

Come and bring a friend!

Members, please donate an item to be auctioned:
jewelry, toiletries, decor items, pot plants, collectables, etc.
(Please note: no second-hand clothing or jumble sale items).

Drop off at the Gallery no later than Friday 12 February.

*Local businesses have donated goods and vouchers we have to convert to cash.
So, if you like a punt...*

The Big Spin Chocolate Wheel

\$400 in prizes. 1 chance in 5 to win

Tickets \$10 each for 12 spins (65 tickets only)

If you can't come, pre-buy a ticket from Roz Baker 0400 629 678