

Alfred Cove Art Society

NEWSLETTER



May 2023

Our next newsletter deadline is Friday 17th June, 2023. Please send in your news.

A Note from the President

Where to begin; it has been such a busy couple of months. At the end of April we had a very successful **Melville Open Studios** with our club display on the verandah at Atwell House. The day involved much talking and promotion of our club and hopefully that will lead to more members. I did write a report about that in an email earlier in the month prior to our Annual awards.



Councillor Katy Mair opening our exhibition

The big news is that we are now at the end of our **2023 Annual Awards of Excellence**. Thank you to all those members who volunteered to roster themselves on for gallery open hours and to all those who contributed to the success of our exhibition. It is too difficult to mention everyone individually but to the hanging committee, the kitchen helpers, the parking team, the wine men and to all those who stepped when needed, thank you. A big thank you to Katie Mair for once again opening our event, for those of you who are interested in reading her opening speech you will find it at the end of this newsletter.

The **raffles** were drawn at the end of our Awards of Excellence on Sunday afternoon. As Robyn Truscott was leaving she confidently announced to us all that she would be winning the raffle. Two minutes later she was drawn out as the winner of Peta Zeller's painting. Mary Cowell's roses were won by a delighted Chelsea from Winthrop.

Our next general meeting is on Thursday, 25th May 2023. 6.45 for a 7pm start. Our painting challenge this meeting is "Still Life"

At the conclusion of the challenge, winners in this years **Awards of Excellence** will be giving a short talk on their winning work and their processes.

SKILL SHARE is scheduled for **Saturday, 10th June** from 1 - 4pm. Cost \$20 for the 2 session afternoon. Names and money to Hadyn. All those who attended skill share last year had high praise for the event both from what they learnt and from a social perspective. It promises to be another fun afternoon with Hilda and Acrylics, and Hadyn on Perspective.

Our next newsletter is deadline is Friday 16th June, 2023. I am not receiving much input from member so please don't be shy and send in your news

Our June meeting will be held on Thursday 29th at the usual time. Lynne Boladeras will be giving a demonstration on her plein air sketching and then transitioning to a larger art work on canvas. Lynne had a very successful exhibition in the Atwell Gallery in March/April this year.

Our art Challenge for the June meeting will be "Portraits"



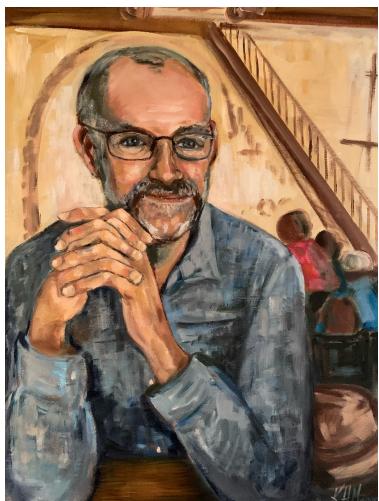
Graham Longhurst's portrait of Sherri Shamsi, exhibited in our Awards of Excellence.

Life Drawing is trialling on the last Sunday in May at Willagee Community Centre, Corner Archibald and Winnacott Streets, 9 - 12 noon at a cost of \$25 per session. If you are interested Book with Graham at: longhurstgr1@gmail.com

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MEMBERS ARTICLE BY KATHLEEN MOORE

'Getting a likeness' always seemed to me to be a highly desirable but impossible dream. For most of my life it remained a dream. I was brought up at Warburton, near the centre of Australia, and Esperance - contrasting parts of Australia but both rich in colour and beauty. Plenty of inspiration for drawing and painting.



As an English and a Second Language teacher I used drawing to complement language learning. When I retired from the Education Department after 35 years, I went straight to Claremont School of Art and enrolled in everything. It was

there that I found wonderful teachers and focussed eventually on life drawing and portraits in oils. People are irresistible to me.

For some years I belonged to a portrait group at Atwell, then, in 2016 I had the opportunity to go to Florence, Italy, to the Angel School of Art . A Summer School, very rigorous and traditional in its approach. We were introduced to a palette which I have used ever since, and during Covid lockdown I was able to do an online course with the same teacher.



May 2023

I have been Artist in Residence at Beverley Station Arts twice - a great opportunity for which I am grateful. I recommend it along with membership of ACAS which offers support and opportunities for growth and development. Dreams can become



reality - with a little help from friends!

Editor's note.

Kath was a great hit at **Melville Open Studios** last month, she spent one and a half days, on her feet, drawing charcoal portraits which were very popular with the public and very entertaining for the many people who stopped to watch her create. She drew a lot of visitors to the verandah where we were positioned and consequently improved our exposure. Thank you Kath for volunteering.



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Winners at the Annual Awards of Excellence

May 2023

Best in Show,
Deb Armstrong, Painted Landscape 2



Best Oil
Jenny Rawlinson Not Mellow Yellow



Best Acrylic
Shirley Winstanley Reflections



Best Mixed Media and Printmaking
Lynda Fynn Dickinson Cruisin' the Deep



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Best Pastel
Hilda Klap Silence



Best Watercolour
Derrick Fitzpatrick York Rocks



Highly Commended:

Tetyana Soboleva Still Life with Rockmelon
and
Marie Novak The Beginning



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May 2023



Melville Rotary Art Show

12th - 18th June, 2023

Entries Close 5pm, 2nd June 2023



Entries Close 12th June 2023

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND
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We thank Sam Lim
Member for Tangney
for the printing of this newsletter



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KATY MAIR'S OPENING SPEECH

May 2023

2023 Annual Awards of Excellence

We are here this evening to honour the artists who submitted their creative pieces into the 2023 Annual Awards of Excellence.

What is the true meaning of excellence?

"Excellence means greatness — the very best. Achieving excellence is never easy to do. Excellence is a quality that people really appreciate, because it's so hard to find. Excellence is the quality of excelling, of being truly the best at something."

What does it mean to be a person of excellence? It means that you strive to be the best you can be and to do the best you can do. Excellence reflects moral virtue and therefore strives toward what is positive, valuable, and praiseworthy.

I think we can all acknowledge that we have the opportunity to look at some beautiful and intricate works of art at galleries and in public places. Art takes time and thought for the artists to compose and present and that is what we are seeing here tonight.

Why should artists put their work in public places like galleries and so on. Well, it is important for artists to do this for three reasons:

1. To challenge themselves and others
2. To build character
3. To exhibit bravery and vulnerability

Let us look at those points more closely:

1. "To Challenge themselves and others"

Public exhibitions give artists an opportunity to meet a learning objective or an art class goal. They can try out new styles and styles of famous artists. They can develop their creative thinking skills and explore new materials. They can have some fun in their creative endeavours.

How does this art contribute to the minds of us, the viewer? Art gives meaning to our lives and helps us understand our world. It is an essential part of our culture because it allows us to have a deeper understanding of our emotions; it increases our self-awareness, and also allows us to be open to new ideas and experiences. And most importantly, it brightens up our world!

2. "To build character"

Some of the common challenges faced by artists is finding aspirations. This is a strong desire to achieve something higher or greater.

It is often a long-term, overarching life goal or desire. Another challenge might be keeping up with surrounding talent. It could also be self-trust. An artist may have time constraints such as deadlines or a busy life. Some artists desire to be perfect. Some artists might be afraid of critics. So remember to be kind to them! Whatever it is, it causes an artist to spend some time thinking about their artistic endeavours. Facing challenges and navigating their way through these, builds resilience capacity. Knowing that one can overcome obstacles, learn from struggles and benefit from mistakes lays a solid foundation for success in life

3. "To exhibit bravery and vulnerability"

Art can help artists to express emotions that can feel unspeakable or inexpressible, such as despair, hopelessness, grief, fury, alienation, loss, fear and exhaustion, as well as more positive emotions such as hope and love. Often, these emotions are deeply tied up together and art can help express that complexity. Displaying deep felt art in a public places may cause some anxiety in artists who may feel their inner most thoughts are exposed and subject to judgement.

FINAL THOUGHTS

For an artist, an exhibition is a way to communicate with the world. Artists tend to channel their inexplicable and complex emotions into their greatest pieces. And through an exhibition, those emotions can now be communicated to the world. To the artists displaying their work here - sharing your art will encourage you to try new things, grow your skills, venture into uncertain but good paths, and help you find the courage when you need it to keep going.

Art is a way for us to see the good. Art brings more beauty into this world, which we need! Art exhibitions are a wonderful way to appreciate the creativity and hard work of artists as we are fortunate enough to see tonight. They allow us to see paintings that we may not otherwise see. They are also a wonderful way to spend an evening with friends as we doing here tonight.