



NEWSLETTER

Patron

*Her Excellency, Professor, the
Honourable Kate Warner, AM
Governor of Tasmania*

Australian Society of Miniature Art Tasmania Inc.
ABN 62 906 905 330 (Society not registered for GST)

August, September, October 2017



Dear Members,

The 2017 Annual General Meeting was held in the lovely village of Evandale at "Gill and Greg's Place" on Saturday, 16th September. The day was mild and sunny, such a welcome change from the freezing conditions encountered on our previous visit in June.

Travelling to the venue was a treat as the countryside was a lovely green with new lambs scattered in the paddocks, wattles in their golden glory lining the roads and beautiful blossoms in gardens along the way - Spring really has arrived!

The combination of the recently consistently dreadful wintry weather and the serious outbreak of influenza so prevalent throughout the State may have contributed to the record low numbers attending the A.G.M. For the first time in memory, we were reduced to the required number for a quorum, putting us in danger of being unable to proceed - very concerning, considering the importance of the meeting and the extensive preparations required. Thank you to those who sent their apologies; the contribution of these six regular attendees was sorely missed.

Some members may feel their input and support is unimportant at the A.G.M. and at other events during the year. Every member has something to offer regarding the organisation of the Society and their contribution is highly valued. The Committee members do their best with the interest of each and every member at heart, but we do need your contribution, too. The Society will only remain strong and continue to grow with fresh ideas coming from the membership, not only from the Committee.

The painting afternoon following the meeting was a relaxed and happy time, with some excellent paintings in progress. It is always a pleasure to watch paintings taking shape and it is so enjoyable sharing pleasant times together in relaxed circumstances.

Election of Office Bearers 2017/18

President - Patricia Young

Vice President - Ruth Bosveld - Newsletter Editor

Secretary - Sandra Cumming - Southern Co-ordinator

Treasurer - Helen Eastley

Committee Members

Christine Cooke - Minutes Secretary/Public Officer/Profile Book Co-ordinator

Claire Gill - Archivist/Southern Co-ordinator

James Bowler - New Committee Member

Joan Humble - Assistant Webmaster

John Humble - Webmaster (invited Committee Member)

Assistants to the Committee

Carlene Vickers - Membership Secretary/Calendar Co-ordinator

Auditor - Philip Vickers

Sincere thanks to all Committee Members for renewing their nominations and a very warm welcome to James Bowler, who I am sure will be a very valuable member of the Committee.

Bicheno Workshop - Sat. Nov. 4th/ Sun. Nov. 5th, 2017

Venue - Beachfront Conference Centre
232 Tasman Highway Ph. 6375 1111

Time - 10.00 - 3.00 daily.

Tutor - Madeleine Szymanski - from N.S.W.

Cost - \$120 per person (for the 2 days)

Lunch Cost - \$10.00 per person daily. Orders taken each morning (painters' friends welcome). Sandwiches and fruit platters provided by kitchen staff. Tea/coffee/nibbles (endless supply).

Topics - Discussion concerning Collograph creation.

Main Topic - "Figures in Landscapes"

Requirements - List provided for participants. Choose own medium and size to work in.

N.B. - space is still available for more participants. Contact Pat a.s.a.p.

Payment - will be required by October, 30th - ensure the Treasurer receives your payment prior to this date.

Accommodation - the Beachfront is full but may have cancellations. Other venues nearby.

Fundraising Greeting Cards

The Committee is researching the production of Greeting Cards in addition to the regular A.S.M.A. (Tas.) Calendar. These would use the images so generously provided by members for the Calendar, and would be available to purchase at Painting Days and Exhibitions. They will be a quality product, suitable for all occasions, with a short description of the artist's name, style, and medium employed on the back of each. It is envisioned that these will be very saleable items. Thus, they will prove a highly effective way of raising funds to keep down the cost of hiring quality tutors for our workshops.

Archives

The Committee has begun creating an Archive (history) of A.S.M.A. Tas. Fortunately, Bernadette has a comprehensive archive of the early years. Recently, the Committee began putting together photos and other items in album form. Claire Gill has taken on the task of Archivist and would appreciate any relevant material that members may feel would be appropriate and are happy to add to this collection (copies of originals would also be welcomed). It is hoped to display the albums to this stage at Bicheno for members to view. Thank you, Claire, for accepting this important role.

ABRIDGED PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 2017

Since the 2016 AGM, much has been happening within the Society.

The Hobart Show exhibition, from 19th-22nd October, 2016, saw a very acceptable number of entries in the Miniature Section. Congratulations were extended to Bill Watson and Ingrid Walpole, who were awarded 1st and 2nd prizes respectively. It is hoped that the number of entries will be as good or better this year.

The Bicheno workshop held 5th/6th November, tutored by Janet Matthews, was thoroughly enjoyed, not only as an excellent opportunity to develop skills in portraiture, but as a delightful social time together. Bicheno is fast becoming a 'not to be missed event' on our calendar.

How fortunate we were to again be invited to participate in the Clarence Arts program on 2nd March 2017. We used this as our Annual Awards Exhibition. Congratulations to all medal winners, thanks to our Judge, Di Casimaty, and in particular to Claire, Sandra and Ruth for tasks performed to ensure the success of the exhibition, along with Sarah's organization at the Gallery. I have been assured that we can offer an expression of interest in 2 years' time.

How exciting it was that Bernadette was able to present the inaugural Founder's Award. Our thanks to you, Bernadette, for introducing and funding this award into the future. Congratulations

this award on the 25th Anniversary year of the Society.

The morning after the Opening, Her Excellency, the Governor and Mr. Warner, along with Catherine Saunders, the Aide-De-Camp, were guided on a tour of the Exhibition at the Gallery. It was such an enjoyable hour, with interest not only in the paintings, but in the artists who produced them, culminating in the purchase of paintings by Carlene Vickers and Jen Bottle.

In June, we were treated to a one day workshop, tutored by Joan Humble. Thank you, Joan, for the knowledge and skills so generously provided for the keen group who participated.

The Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the formation of the Society would have to be considered the Highlight of 2017. Our thanks must go to Bernadette for her vision and the hard work of the original Committee. If the initiative had not been taken then, who knows if or when a Society would have been formed in Tasmania?

Our celebration High Tea, despite our somewhat 'cosy' seating arrangements, proved to be a happy occasion, as everyone enjoyed catching up.

Our Vice Regal guests were an absolute delight, thoroughly enjoying the afternoon. His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor, was called upon to present Bernadette with Life Membership of the Society. Congratulations from us all Bernadette, so very well deserved.

Sadly, we farewelled three members of long standing during the year: Joan Skibby, exhibiting member from NSW, past Treasurer, Lindsay Kelly, and past member, Les Woollcott.

Carlene is now preparing the 2018 Calendar. Our thanks to Carlene for the work on the Calendar and as Membership Secretary each year.

The next event on our calendar will be the Bicheno Workshop, tutored by the very talented Madeleine Szymanski, on 4th/5th November. We still have vacancies for interested participants.

Our appreciation is extended to Gill Waddle. She looks after us so well throughout the year, as we gather in Evandale for painting and meeting days and accommodation when required

In closing, I must, on behalf of the members of the Society and myself, thank our dedicated Committee members, who travel the State, despite the weather, to attend meetings during the year. Our Treasurer does not travel, but the service she provides is second to none, a sincere thank you, Helen.

Thank you also to our members who support the events planned by the Committee. Over the past 5 years, the Committee and our members have given me much appreciated support.

Thank you so very much, Pat.

For Your Diary

(Please note and keep these dates free)

Painting Day - Saturday, 17th February, 2018

- Gill and Greg's Place at Evandale
- 10:00-3:30, B.Y.O. lunch

Painting Day - Saturday, 19th May, 2018

- Gill and Greg's Place at Evandale
- 10:00-3:30, B.Y.O. Lunch

A.G.M. and Painting Afternoon

Saturday, 25th August, 2018

A.G.M. - 10:30-12:00, B.Y.O. lunch

Painting afternoon to follow 1:00-3:30

Annual Awards Exhibition - Opening Saturday, 8th September

Held at Derwent Sailing Squadron, Hobart
(More information later)

Bicheno Workshop - Saturday 3rd/Sunday 4th November, 2018

- Tutor, Rikki Fisher, a fine arts specialist using Scratchboard - an excellent opportunity to learn a new skill - not to be missed.

Glenda Addison has kindly provided an overview of The Italian Escape.

In May 2017, Pat Young, Christine Cooke, Sandra Cumming, Glenda Addison, Ian Addison and Malcolm Bartsch headed off for three weeks in Italy. The trip was Malcolm's initiative, as he had been to Italy a number of times previously. The plan was for us to do lots of painting and some touring. Then, there were earthquakes in the parts of Italy where we had been planning to visit, so we had to re-think our routes! We ended up going on a Cosmos tour from Rome, down the Amalfi Coast to Capri, then on to Sicily and eventually back to Rome. The Isle of Capri was a favourite. It was a lovely holiday and I would love to visit again! However, we did very little painting!!! There was so much to look at and, sometimes, we just sat and gazed at the views! Hard to do justice in a painting to the wonderful vistas in front of us!

We had very long days, early starts, etc, but lots of photos! Italy is a very hilly place and the buses always stopped at the bottom of the hill, with the castle or whatever at the top! That meant we mature-aged people did more hill walking than we have been accustomed to, but we made it, albeit slowly! Ian was in his element, walking up and around volcanos! We have walked near Mt Vesuvius, Sorrento, San Michel on Capri, Pompeii, Taormina, Mt Etna, Palermo, the Colosseum, the Vatican and the Sistine Chapel, St Peters Basilica, Tivoli, the Catacombs, plus other areas. Great food and good company, plenty of music at the evening meals, most enjoyable!

The Sistine Chapel was too crowded for us and it

wasn't even peak tourist time. It was difficult to stop and look at the ceiling artwork. "Move on, silencio, no photos", was the chant from the guards. Similarly, the Trevi Fountain was overcrowded, an absolute contrast to when Ian and I visited 27 years ago. The world is full of tourists now! We saw many magnificent fountains and they were all turned on while we were there, but now, because of a very dry season, the Vatican has turned off the water to many of the fountains in an attempt to save water. The mosaic work in many places was so impressive, very fine and detailed. Next time, I would prefer a more structured art holiday with art each day, but some touring! The best of both worlds! I think that would be the best way to actually get some holiday painting done!

Glenda

AGM and Painting Day Evandale, 16th September, 2017



Sandra using coloured pencils



Claire does fine work in gouache



Rosemary draws the outline of a robin

With thanks to Pat Young for these photos.

The Italian Escape Mid-2017 by ASMA (Tas) Members



Selinunte Archaeological Park

Farmhouse,
Sicily



Mosaics in Villa
Pompeii

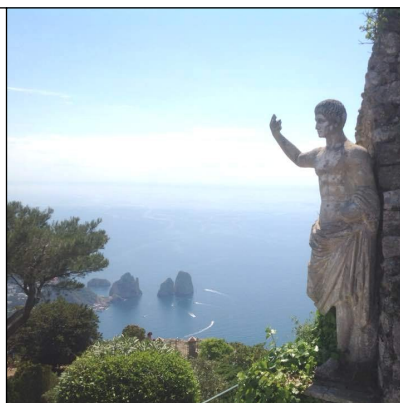
Overlooking the
Bay of Naples





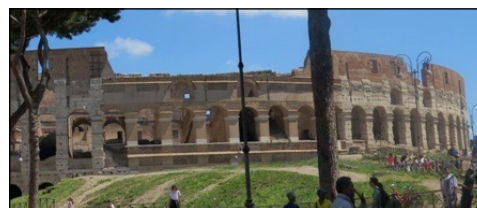
Mount Etna, Sicily

Looking
towards the
Three Sisters
from the Isle
of Capri -
accessed via
a cable car.



Street in Taormina

Amalfi
Coast,
Amalfi



Colosseum, Rome



Chris, Pat and Sandra at St Peter's Basilica in Rome



Julius Caesar Way



Our founder, Bernadette Connor,
added the society's book,
*Miniature Art of Australia: Past
and Present*, to a time capsule
organised by the Hobart City
Council on the occasion of the
commemoration of the 150th
Anniversary of the Town Hall.

With thanks to Glenda Addison and
Sandra Cumming for these
photographs.