



# NEWSLETTER

**Australian Society of Miniature Art Tasmania Inc.**

ABN 62 906 905 339 (Society not registered for GST)

*Patron*

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

**October, November, December 2019**



Dear Members,

With the Festive Season fast approaching, the Committee and I wish all our Members and their families a very Holy, Safe and Merry Christmas and holiday season to follow. We hope to meet up with many members at Briar Lane in Evandale on February 22nd, 2020, as we share a painting day and encourage each other after the holidays.

The latter part of the year has been very busy for many members. Thank you to Barbara Etter for providing a report on the Bicheno workshop.

*On 8 and 9 November, fifteen Society members and colleagues participated in our annual workshop in Bicheno. This year, our topic was pastels, and our tutor was the fabulous Leoni Duff from Launceston. Leoni gave us instruction in still life and the benefits of painting from real life. We had specific teaching about flowers, ornaments and delicate lace. She reinforced the importance of critical and careful observation.*

*Leoni taught us that the key to portraying complex flowers or floral arrangements is to simplify, simplify (for instance, she spoke in terms of flower shapes such as discs, tubes and cylinders)!*

*We learnt the importance of the background colour to our final painting and the mood it sets (she likes paper colours like Elephant and Australian Grey). Leoni gave some advice on the issue of painted backgrounds, where it is important to maintain some transparency in the application of pastels (though the temptation is to fill the tooth quite extensively).*

*She also discussed colour theory, including the CMYK (cyan, magenta, yellow and key (black))*

Barbara with her scratchboard, "Missy", at the Poochibald



*colour wheel, which is used in colour printing. Apparently, a pure magenta and cyan makes a divine purple!*

*We were instructed on the importance of colour concepts such as hue, value and chroma, which are key to achieving form. We learnt to map out our painting using dark, mid and light tones to produce a "grisaille". The highlights and darkest accents are left to the very last. Contrast is key (i.e. light v dark, cool v warm).*

*We also learnt to draw commencing with gesture strokes, to give paintings flow and an appealing composition.*

*Leoni presented a gallery of her works and demonstrated the importance of having a story. Many of us tackled the challenge of creating sunflowers from Leoni's beautiful reference images. The braver ones took on clusters of daisies or a complex still life photo.*

*Overall, this was a very beneficial and enjoyable two days. There was such diverse talent in the room. A big thank you to Leoni and Alan for a great workshop.*  
- Barbara

At the time of writing, preparations are well advanced for the 105 entries to be hung at the Schoolhouse Gallery at Rosny, with the opening of the National Awards Exhibition imminent on Thursday evening, 28th November at 5:30pm.

We are so very privileged to again be invited to participate in the Clarence Council Arts Programme and to have our work exhibited in this delightful gallery. It is hoped many interested members and friends will join us at the opening.

## Assessment

All entries to an exhibition must be assessed to:

- Ensure size of paintings and frames comply.
- Correct information matches the entry form and labels are attached.
- Paintings and frames must be of acceptable standards.

Frames have become a problem, unfortunately, as despite the entry form and new member's booklet

stating - "they must be suited to a miniature and of a professional standard" - we now find exhibitors using "mass produced" frames from stores such as Harvey Norman, which are most unsuitable, chunky and often with the "prop" still attached at the back. They are, of course, cheaper.

The only avenue left to us to ensure acceptable framing is to ban all mass produced frames at future exhibitions. Entrants must recognise that the mat and frame form an important part of the overall presentation of a painting and should be professionally selected accordingly. Our paintings are original works and not photographs.

### **ASMA Badges**

It is some time since we last ordered badges. If you would like to be included in this next order, please contact Pat for the appropriate form to be filled out with relevant information required for your badge (Ph xxxxxxxxxx). Cost \$15.00 to be paid to the treasurer, Julie.

### **Art On Show**

Congratulations to Joan Humble, who was awarded first prize with a painting, titled, *Autumn Colours Below Drys Bluff* and to Bill Watson, who was awarded 2nd prize for his work titled, *Blue Mountains Panorama from Leura*. We must support this initiative, keeping the number of entries high to ensure continuation of the Miniature Section in particular.

### **Congratulations**

A number of members have achieved recognition, not necessarily for miniature work, since our last issue:

Joan Humble - *Fortescue Beach, Tasman Peninsula* was awarded First Prize in Oils at the current Miniature Painters Sculptors and Gravers Society of Washington DC Annual Exhibition.

Pat Young - a large graphite portrait of *Twinnies* was accepted into TasArt on the North-west coast.

Barbara Etter - won the Packer's Prize at the Poochibald with *Missy in Scratchboard*.

Please notify us if you have won any awards so we may share your success with other members!

### **Annual Workshop at Bicheno 2020**

Date: Saturday, May 23rd/Sunday, May 24th (note earlier date) (10:00-3:30 daily)

Tutor: Joan Humble

Title: "Seascapes and Water" - rocks, waves, sand, etc. - all things seascape.

Medium: Although Joan will demonstrate in oil, participants many choose their own medium.

Price: To be advised.

Bookings: If you wish to attend, it would be advisable for you to pencil in your accommodation at the Beachfront a.s.a.p., as available units fill

rapidly. Confirmation may be made closer to the date - (no deposit required). Ph. 6375 1111. Tell them you are a miniaturist as they hold rooms for us.

Participants: Please add your name to Pat's list early (xxxxxxxxxx).

Lunches: Participants must B.Y.O. lunches for 2 days on this occasion.

### **First Painting Day for 2020**

Date: Saturday, February 22nd - 10am-3:30pm

Where: "Briar Lane", Collins St, Evandale

Cost: \$10.00, B.Y.O. lunch - contributions

towards morning and afternoon tea appreciated.

Bring what ever you are painting - let us inspire each other after the holiday season.

### **National Awards Exhibition 2020**

Where: Briar Lane Gallery, Evandale (a great new venue for us).

Date: Opening, Saturday, 17th October, 2020.

Will be open on 3 consecutive weekends, according to the busy times in the Village of Evandale. More information to follow, but note this information in your diary.

### **Calendars**

Thank you to John for his fine efforts in co-ordinating the production of the quality calendar recently distributed. Thank you to those who entered paintings and to the many people who purchased them as Christmas gifts. We appreciate your support.

Good painting, Pat

### **National Awards Exhibition Opening - 28th November, 2019 at 5:30pm**

"A Medley of Miniatures" was formally opened by the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Heather Chong, who spoke about the uniqueness of miniatures and the skill involved in painting so small. Our President, Pat Young, responded by thanking Mrs Chong and expressing the Society's appreciation for again being included in the Clarence Arts Programme, thus enabling us to exhibit in the beautiful Rosny Schoolhouse Gallery. Mention was made of and thanks given to the professional staff, particularly Sarah and Caitlin, who hung the exhibition so beautifully.

Our founder, Bernadette Connor OAM, was welcomed; as was our judge, Janet Matthews, an internationally awarded wildlife artist, specialising in coloured pencil and graphite; along with everyone in attendance, for supporting

the Society.

Miniatures were defined - the painting size must not exceed 100 sq. cm and must be reduced in size. In Tasmania, the frame must not exceed 100cm in length. The works are all two-dimensional, but many mediums are used. All paintings are for sale!

Mention was made of Carol Hues, who generously donated the keys from an historic family piano. In honour of this donation, a category of mini-miniatures and piano keys was included in the exhibition. The awards were explained and Sandra Cumming thanked for her work, over many years, of arranging them.

Encouraging critiques were provided by Janet after the awarding of each category.

### **Awards Presented**

#### **Category I - Landscapes/Streetscapes/Buildings (24 entries)**

**Gold** - No. 89 - *Sunrise over the Hazards* by Ingrid Walpole

**Silver** - No. 80 - *Liffey Falls* by Elaine Sturzaker

**Bronze** - No. 83 - *Simple Pleasure* by Madeleine Szymanski (NSW)

#### **Highly Commended**

No. 35 - *Convict Cottage, Koonya* by Sue Fricker

#### **Category II - Seascapes/Waterways (23 entries)**

**Gold** - No. 59 - *Autumn on the Macquarie* by Susan Joyce (NSW)

**Silver** - No. 90 - *Approaching Storm* by Ingrid Walpole

**Bronze** - No. 53 - *Lake Pedder from Teds Beach* by Joan Humble

#### **Highly Commended**

No. 22 - *Water Views* by Margaret Butler

#### **Category III - Faces/Figures/Animals (32 entries)**

**Gold** - No. 82 - *Friends* by Madeleine Szymanski

**Silver** - No. 99 - *Noisy-Pika* by Julie Wickham

**Bronze** - No. 51 - *Who? Me?* by Joan Humble

#### **Highly Commended**

No. 84 - *Side by Side* by Carol Toogood

#### **Category IV - Mini-Miniatures/Piano Keys (13 entries)**

**Gold** - No. 7 - *Mt Roland, Sheffield* by Ruth Bosveld

**Silver** - No. 73 - *Beach Hideaway* by Eileen Preece

**Bronze** - No. 48 - *Coastline* by Judith Harris

#### **Highly Commended**

No. 88 - *Scott* by Carol Toogood

#### **Category V - Floral/Still Life (11 entries)**

**Gold** - No. 31 - *Pansies* by Robyn Fletcher

**Silver** - No. 6 - *Posing Poppies* by Karin Behlau

**Bronze** - No. 81 - *Magnolia 'Vulcan'* by Elaine Sturzaker

#### **Highly Commended**

No. 42 - *Shells and Sea Eggs* by Claire Gill

**Founder's Award** (Provided for and presented by Bernadette Connor OAM)

Awarded to Ruth Bosveld for consistent involvement and working to make a difference in the Society.

Congratulations to all the recipients of awards, but also in general to all those with work hanging in the exhibition, because the standard is so high as a whole.

## Painting days, Exhibition jury day



Elaine, Pam, Karin and others in the comfortable work area at Briar Lane.



Hayley came along with her mother-in-law, Ruth, to give painting minis a go.

The jurying process for the annual exhibition.



Rosemary is always very cheerful.



## Bicheno Workshop—8th and 9th November With Pastel Artist, Leoni Duff



Judith was trying out a new medium.

A gorgeous example of Leoni's still life work, including lace.



Everyone enjoyed gathering around as Leoni demonstrated a technique and helped somebody's painting along!



Photographs supplied by Ruth Bosveld, Susan Joyce, Leoni Duff and Barbara Etter.





Pat was keen as mustard to have a go at pastels.



Robyn with her trusty easel.

## Annual National Awards Exhibition Opening Schoolhouse Gallery, Rosny 28th November, 2019



Pat begins the presentation - Janet and Sandra.



“Pansies” by Robyn Fletcher  
(watercolour) - 1st in Florals  
and Still Life



“Sunrise over the Hazards, Coles Bay” by Ingrid  
Walpole - 1st in Landscapes, Streetscapes and  
Buildings



Ruth was the recipient of the Founder’s Award,  
presented by the Founder herself,  
Bernadette Connor OAM.



Marg, Robyn, Janet and Barbara after the awards had been presented.



"Friends" by Madeleine Szymanski (watercolour) - 1st in Faces, Figures and Animals



Ingrid won two major awards with her painting skill.



"Mt Roland, Sheffield" by Ruth Bosveld (gouache) - 1st in Mini-miniatures and Piano Keys, demonstrating the size of these ultra-minis!



"Autumn on the Macquarie" by Susan Joyce (watercolour) - 1st in Seascapes and Waterways

Good friendships have formed over the years - Sandra, Pat and Dawn.

