



NEWSLETTER

Patron

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

Australian Society of Miniature Art Tasmania Inc.
ABN 62 906 905 339 (Society not registered for GST)

January, February, March 2020



Dear Members,

The first painting day for the year proved to be a very happy and productive time for 15 members, all keen to catch up after the long break. Everyone was creating something different, demonstrating a great diversity of styles, subjects and mediums, as they concentrated on producing exciting results.

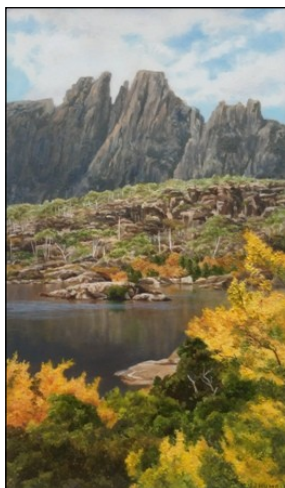
The Gallery at Briar Lane, where we meet, displays wonderful works by the late Greg Waddle, his son, Peter, and Peter's wife, Sue. The latter pair are now the hard working owners, since the retirement of our dear friend, and Peter's mother, Gill.

The Village of Evandale was packed for the Annual Penny Farthing races, bringing participants and on-lookers from near and far, in absolutely beautiful weather. Judging by the multitude of vehicles, and the races being "called" all day, a successful event ensued.

National Annual Awards Exhibition, 2019

Once again, our Exhibition Opening was well attended, and the professional staff at The School House Gallery at Rosny had hung the 105 paintings beautifully. They looked after us very well.

Congratulations again to Ruth Bosveld who was presented with the very special **Founder's Award** for service to the Society.



Congratulations to all
award winners

(published in the last
newsletter) and to Joan
Humble OAM, awarded
the **People's Choice**
medal for her miniature
gem, *Mt Geryon in
Autumn* (left),
115x68mm, oil on
polymin.



Visit to our Annual Awards Exhibition by our patron, Her Excellency, Professor, the Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania and Mr Richard Warner AM.

Sales were lower than usual, but still quite pleasing. Congratulations to the following –

Margaret Butler – *Water Views*

Robyn Fletcher – *Pansies*

Bill Watson - *Boat Shed Near Dennes Point* and
Looking Toward Adamson Peak

Judith Harris – *The Old Homestead*

Nina Paine – *Pumphouse Point*

Eileen Preece - *Guide Falls, Sandune Hills, and
Beach Hideaway*

Our Patron, Her Excellency, and Mr Warner, visited the Gallery on 4th December. Claire, Sandra and Pat conducted a very pleasant and informative tour of the Exhibition. They are always very appreciative of the work entered and were delighted to purchase Bill's, *Boat Shed Near Dennes Point*.

Bicheno Workshop – May 23rd/24th, 2020

Sat. – 10am - 3:30pm

Sun. – 9:30am – 3pm

Title: **All Things Seascape**

Tutor: **Joan Humble OAM**

Venue: Beachfront Bicheno motel, corner of
Sinclair Street and Tasman Highway, Bicheno

Cost: \$130 (covers 2 days tutoring) to be paid to
the treasurer, Julie, by May 8th, as no payments
will be accepted at Bicheno.

Payment of Bicheno fee

Bank Information for EFT

Description: "Your name WKSHP",
eg, "FBloggs WKSHP"

BSB *****

Account *****

Cheques made payable to ASMA (Tas.) Inc.

Please send cheques directly to Julie (see list of contacts in this newsletter). If you decide to use electronic funds transfer, please email Julie your details so she can cross-reference payments made directly into the account.

Lunches: This year, participants are requested to supply their own lunches. There is a local IGA grocery store, as well as other options in the town. Nibbles will be supplied by attendees for all of us to enjoy. Contributions appreciated.

Dinner: As usual, we will gather at the Bistro for dinner on Saturday night.

Requirements: Although Joan will be demonstrating in her usual oils, participants can use their own choice of medium. Joan will provide a list of topics that she will demonstrate, eg, waves, rocks, etc. along with a suggested list of possible colours in the next issue.

Bookings: If you wish to participate – there are only 6 places left – contact Pat a.s.a.p. to book (*****). Book accommodation in good time, since the Beachfront Bicheno motel fills very early in the year (6375 1111).

Calendars

Thank you, again, to those who entered paintings for the 2020 Calendar, or purchased them prior to Christmas. All of the 114 printed have sold, except for one being still available (\$13.00). A "cut off date" for acceptance of entries for the 2021 calendar will be provided in the next newsletter (possibly September).

Badges for A.S.M.A. Tas Members

A batch of society badges will be ordered shortly. If you wish to purchase one, please contact Pat for an order form to be filled out with the required information. Cost \$15.00.

National Awards Exhibition 2020

Date: Opening Saturday, 17th October and closing Sunday, 1st November

Venue: Briar Lane Gallery, Evandale

Categories: Advertised in the next newsletter

Commission: only 20%

Opening Hours: The Gallery will be open over three weekends.

Opening times:

Saturday, 17th and Sunday 18th October

Friday, 23rd, Saturday, 24th and Sunday, 25th October

Saturday, 31st October and Sunday, 1st November

Special Category

It has been decided, as a one-off in this exhibition, to have a "small paintings" category.

Works would be no larger than 320 square cm, maximum perimeter length yet to be decided. This would allow for a painting to be up to A5 size, or the 9x5" size and proportion used by the early impressionists, who painted *en plein air* on cigar box lids.

Also, as a one-off for this exhibition, works in the small paintings category (only) are permitted to be on gallery-wrapped canvases, rather than in a frame, if desired. The painting subject need not be miniaturised.

This category will add interest and also demonstrate to visitors the marked difference between the detail required in a true miniature gem and that of a small painting. Only one "small painting" per participant will be accepted.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact any of the committee members.

Vale

We were advised in December of the death of Bernhardine Mueller, a well-known and talented artist and member of A.S.M.A. (NSW). Many would remember Bernhardine as one of the three judges at the World Exhibition in Burnie, in 2008. Bernhardine battled serious illness over many years and sadly passed away on 8th December. Our condolences were conveyed to her family.

Resignation

Sadly, this is the last newsletter I will write, as recent health issues make it necessary for me to resign, effective immediately, as your President. My sincere thanks are extended to both past and present Committees and Members, who have so kindly supported me over the years, as we have worked together to build our Society into the future.

I am delighted to announce that Barbara Etter has accepted the position of President, while Julie Wickham has taken on the dual role of Secretary/Treasurer – two very talented members, who will be a great team, supported very ably by the hard-

working Committee through to the A.G.M. in August.

I thank and congratulate them, wishing all the Committee and Members well in their future endeavours.

With thanks,

Pat

We appreciate this contribution from Julie Wickham:

Trying something new on a whim

It is said that copying another artist's work, trying new techniques, and being prepared to fail are the best ways to take art to the next level. So, at our painting day in February 2020, I decided to try something new. I had no expectations of finishing a "masterpiece". I just wanted to enjoy myself.

The technique I landed on was to use a *grisaille* underpainting with watercolour. I had recently read an article on this technique by American artist, Tim Saternow (timsaternow.com). In the article, he explained that he uses the *grisaille* technique for his watercolour paintings of old factories and gritty street scenes from New York City – they are definitely worth taking a look at!

What is Grisaille?

Grisaille (pronounced like *Versailles*) means "greyness" in French. It is an underpainting technique where all tones are applied in grey, and then a final glazing of colour is applied. The colour glaze takes on the tone already built in the underpainting.

Works created completely in ranges of achromatic grey (no colour) are seen in examples from the Medieval and Renaissance eras. Using achromatic painting techniques was quicker and less expensive than building up tone from costly coloured pigments.

Works rendered in brown/sepia tones are called *brunaille* or in grey-green are known as *verdaille*.

What I learnt:

- I enjoyed painting just in grey – there was no fighting the colour and I felt I could create the form with correct values much more easily;
- the need to leave the white of the paper for the highlights and areas of pure colour;
- and the technique results in a soft "focus" painting.

Below is an example of two male Superb Fairy-wrens, each painted to the final *grisaille* underpainting stage, with the one on the right having colour applied over the top.

All I can say is, give it a try!



Julie's watercolour painting using a *grisaille* technique

CONTACT DETAILS

Painting Day - Briar Lane, Evandale

Saturday, 22nd February, 2020



New President,
Barbara Etter,
hard at work

Barbara's pastel
painting



One of Glenda's
paintings

Glenda and Marilynne
chatting about Glenda's
work



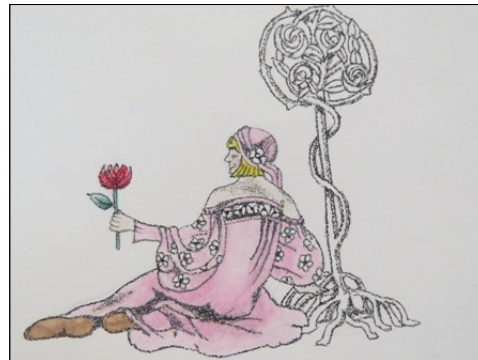
Sandra, Bill, Pat and Julie



Julie and her artwork above



Bill's setup up and progress on Quamby Bluff

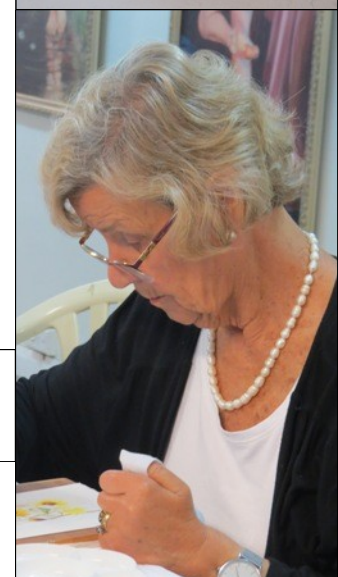


Denise worked on something quite different but very beautiful

Sharon does very fine work



Pat being productive



Karin worked on the botanical subject above

Photographs kindly supplied by Claire Gill, Joan Humble and Barbara Etter.