

## PRESIDENTS REPORT 2018

After the 2017 AGM we began the 2017/18 year having celebrated three true milestones in the history of our Society – the High Tea to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASMA Tasmania, the well-deserved presentation of Life Membership to Bernadette Connor OAM and the presentation of the inaugural Founders Award – all very worthy events to celebrate as the Society looks to the future.

Soon after the AGM the Miniature art section of ‘Arts on Show’, within the Royal Hobart Show, was pleasingly supported by a number of our members culminating in Joan Humble being awarded first prize and Dawn Ransley second. Congratulations to you both. The very generous awards donated by Artery provide a great encouragement for members to enter each year. I would suggest it is very worthwhile to consider entering when entries are invited shortly for the 2018 exhibition.

In early November we travelled to Bicheno excited by the prospect of another enjoyable weekend. This workshop, ‘Figures in the Landscape’, was a happy learning experience, so ably tutored by Madeleine Szymanski from NSW. Participants learned so much as we enjoyed the relaxed teaching style of this delightful and remarkably talented artist. We all gleaned valuable skills to hopefully put into practice. Our sincere thanks to Glenda and Ian Addison for again accommodating our tutor.

The ‘Artex’ Annual Art Exhibition, an initiative of the Rotary Club of Ulverstone, provides an opportunity for artists in the area to exhibit their work each November. The Miniature section in 2017 was won by Carlene Vickers with her oil painting entitled ‘Deciduous Beech at Lake Lilla’, while two piano key paintings of ‘Superb Fairy Wrens’ by Joan Kelly earned a highly commended award.

The 2018 Calendars sold very well with Carlene Vickers coordinating the printing, packaging and distribution of almost 120 that were ordered. Our thanks to Carlene for the time-consuming tasks involved over the past few years. Thank you to those who supported the production of Calendars by submitting entries and those generous members who purchased them as gifts. Entries are now being accepted for the 2019 calendar with five more required before we can go to print.

The cards that were printed as a new innovation met with a great deal of approval with many selling at Bicheno and at various times since. Orders can be printed at any time using members’ paintings or those scanned for the Calendars.

Two painting days were held during the year. The first, on February 17<sup>th</sup>, was organised to ease our members into painting after a long holiday season. Sadly, this was poorly attended due to many still holidaying and having numerous health issues. The second, on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed as we appreciated each other’s paintings and caught up with those not seen in several months in a happy and relaxed atmosphere.

The website organised by John Humble and the Facebook page set up by Ruth Bosveld are often viewed and create interest. John would like more members to provide him with information to add to the website. Thank you both for the work involved.

It is hoped that many members had the pleasure of viewing Joan Humble's wonderful 'New Horizons' exhibition, opened on 28<sup>th</sup> March at the Lady Franklin Gallery. Visitors could not fail to be overawed by the exceptional quality of the Exhibition of the most beautiful paintings. Congratulations Joan. I, for one, was almost speechless when I entered the gallery and viewed those magnificent paintings. You bring the world of miniature art to the attention of the public exceptionally well.

We congratulate those members who have excelled at numerous exhibitions over the past year. Special mention and congratulations go to Janet Matthews being named 'Wildlife Artist of the Year' by the Wildlife Art Society of Australasia – a high distinction indeed. Also, congratulations to Joan Humble who won the Landscape category in the Annual Awards Exhibition of the Miniature Art Society of Florida. It is wonderful to have our members shining on the world stage.

Our membership as always changes constantly as members age or stop painting for one reason or another. At the end of last year, we lost several members who were not participants but just received a newsletter. Since then we have accepted several new exhibiting members and have some considering joining, thus our numbers are again edging towards 60, a healthy number considering the size of our State.

On behalf of members, I cannot end this report without thanking our hard-working Committee. As stated before, they travel all over the State despite inclement weather and give of their time and talents unstintingly. They have specific tasks to perform to spread the workload, but at different times the load is heavier – the Treasurer often has extra time-consuming work as does the Editor of the Newsletter, the Minutes Secretary after meetings and the Membership Secretary at fee time. At the moment with the annual awards imminent, some are working much harder collecting entries and paintings and organising the medals etc. But, whatever we do, it is for the benefit of the Society and its members, and to ensure the Society runs smoothly and events happen in an organised fashion.

Personally, I cannot thank the committee and members enough for their so generous support over the past six years, it has been very much appreciated and made my job much easier.

Thank you all

Pat Young  
August 2018