

Watercolour News

Watercolour Society of Queensland Inc

ABN 11 213 241 031

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Welcome to your newsletter

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition.

We want to hear your news or stories related to your watercolour art – a recent workshop, a prize or recognition of your artwork, a painting holiday, a related story, artwork you would like share etc. – let us know. Before submitting your photos ensure you have permission from everyone in your photos for them to be published. Please forward articles and/or photos to the Editors at wsqnews@gmail.com.

President's Report

It is not uncommon these days to get abuse to various degrees, online, over the phone or directly via email, and we are no different. For some reason, some people think it's ok to make statements that are rude and demeaning. I ask people to keep in mind that we are all volunteers and fitting our commitments to the Society in between our other life demands. Most of us are stretched to the limits, so when we get comments from a member who looks upon us in a derogatory fashion, it makes us question why we are doing this. Please treat our volunteers with the respect they deserve. Thankfully, the vast majority of our members are appreciative and support what we do. On behalf of the volunteers, I thank sincerely all of those people who have taken time out to put their support in writing.

Since my last report, our volunteers have been working hard and achieved a great deal.

- 1. The website is undergoing positive changes with more information that will inform new visitors and members alike.
- 2.We are also posting to Facebook regularly to engage as many people as possible and hopefully gain more members.
- 3. Instagram will also be a part of the social interaction.

Committee members are stepping up to take on these tasks.

- Social Media: Juana Bernado.
- Website: Leonie Seabrook.

Many thanks to these dedicated people who are putting up their hands to take on the added responsibilities. It is an added commitment to what has already been taken on. The more help we get, the easier it is for everyone, along with that feeling of being a part of something wonderful and making some great friends along the way.

We have employed a consultant for 3 months to help us navigate the socials. The first meeting was actually posted on Facebook. The 4 of us, spent 3 ½ hours sorting out exactly what we needed with Thea's help and advice. I was present for just the first one to get an overview, and now progress will be made on a weekly basis by the 3 members listed above.

The workshops are coming along well now after somewhat of a hiatus. The courses are also being well supported.

There is a lot of work behind the scenes to prepare for these events, particularly for the Annual Exhibition. Thank you to Paquita who is taking the lead as coordinator. She has a lot of help, so don't forget to thank those involved when you take in your paintings to the auditorium. There is nothing like a pat on the back for our volunteers.

Anne Roberts
President/Secretary/Workshop Convenor

Diary of events for June – December 2024

	Casual Painting	General Meetings	Workshops	Other Events
June	6, 20	23	29 (Paquita Fadden)	
July	4, 18		6 (Paquita Fadden) 7 (Cecilia Xiao)	20 to 24 BVAC Expo
August	1, 15, 29	11 (GM)	31 (Bruce Griffiths – Day 1 of 2-day workshop)	
September	5, 19	22 (GM + AGM)	1 (Bruce Griffiths – Day 2 of 2-day workshop	5 to 8 Annual Exhibition (setup 3 to 5)
October	3, 17, 31		13 (Ferie Sadeghi)	1 - Ferie Sadeghi 8- week course commences
November	7, 21			
December	5	1 (GM and Christmas party)		12 to 14 BVAC pop up

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News from Members

Workshops - There were three great workshops held at The Hub in May and June.

Penny Gilbert-Ng's "People in the Landscape"

The subject was a mother (Penny's daughter) pushing her little girl on a swing. Penny showed participants how to lay on pale under-washes to establish the key areas of the painting, leaving a few white highlights. Next, we worked on establishing the next layer with wet-on-wet washes in the background trees, the figures and the foreground. We added texture and the shadows in the foreground, and then finished off with wet-on-dry to add some interesting details and contrast to the figures and some of the background vegetation.









Penny Gilbert-Ng's Portrait Workshop

Penny's next WSQ workshop was on portrait painting, specifically a child's face. Penny gave a short talk about the structure of a child's face and skin tones along with some handy notes to take to home. Everyone started with a small sketch or thumbnail of their subject first — an important step although some participants were itching to get into their paints. Penny showed each step of her process as she applied layers of light washes to build the form of a face. (Photos from both of Penny's workshops above and right.)



Pauline Good's Introduction to Watercolour Landscape/Seascape Workshop

Pauline made the trip from Toowoomba to tutor a great workshop, covering a seascape in the morning and a landscape in the afternoon. She talked about design and colours,

particularly mixing greens for Australian vegetation. She took her group of eleven artists through laying down graded and variegated washes for skies to painting casuarinas and sandy beaches, with foredune grasses in the morning. In the afternoon, everyone painted a classic Australian country scene with a cluster of old sheds, distant blue hills and gum trees. Everyone had a great time and came up with some wonderful results. Special thanks go to Pauline for her patient tuition, Anne Roberts for getting everything set up and providing snacks, and Diane Bale for cooking delicious chocolate brownies. (Photos from Pauline's workshop: Pauline advising on how to paint the sea (left) and everyone's finished seascapes (right)).





Exhibitions

Brookfield Show – 9-12 May

Several WSQ members exhibited paintings in the Brookfield Show this year, with great success. Brookfield Show, and similar local shows like Ipswich and Mt. Gravatt, are useful ways to showcase what you are up to and to promote watercolour painting. These are the prizes and entries that we know about:

Ferie Sadeghi – First Prize Mixed Media for "Underwater Magic" Jennifer White – Third Prize Watercolour for "Old Lemon Tree" Leonie Seabrook – Brookfield Show Theme Prize for "Clear Round"



Ferie said, "I am excited that I won the First Prize in Mixed Media category at the Brookfield Art Show! The painting has a lot of details. The judge said the more you look at the painting the more you get out of it. It's ironic to win a prize from Eckersley's because I give workshops at Eckersley's shops in different locations on Saturday or Sundays. Also, I am the artist in residence at the Milton store."





Juana Bernardo and Shruti Kashikar also entered the Show, and several works were sold.









Selection of sold paintings included, from Top to Bottom L - R:

Ripples of radiance (Juana Bernardo), Brookfield Fair (Shruti Kashikar), Windswept Coast (Jennifer White), Casuarina Cove (Leonie Seabrook)

For the Love of Art Exhibition

Richard Randall Art Studio, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha, 19 - 21 April 2024

Artists: Paquita Fadden, Shruti Kashikar, Leonie Seabrook and Juana Bernardo

What started as 'art play dates' led to bigger dreams of Paquita Fadden and I doing our own art show. This dream became a reality when we managed to secure bookings at the Richard Randall Art Studio, a wonderful heritage building with lots of natural light. Sadly, Paquita was away in Canada, but I still exhibited some of her works, and happily, Leonie Seabrook and Shruti Kashikar, our partners in art crime, joined us for the ride and what a ride it was!

I must say it was a big learning curve and terrific team effort organizing the event, the marketing, the signage, and hanging 95 pieces of art.

We were thrilled with the attendance at our Opening Night, but it presented both challenges and victories. We faced challenges, as novices, using the square to take payment, but the heartwarming satisfaction of seeing our friends and art colleagues come and support us - thank you to all our visitors! The encouraging sales that evening, more than made up for the 'square stress'.

Both Leonie and Shruti breezed through impromptu demos with ease during the exhibition and they were very well-received. On-lookers and visitors were keen to learn about watercolour and techniques, and we did not miss the chance to tell them about our society, with some signing up for more information. Deryle Macdonald, who some members will have met at Casual Painting, learned about WSQ through his son, who came to our exhibition.

Purchasers enjoyed meeting and talking to the artists. It certainly was a bonus for us to meet the people who fell in love with our artwork and bought it. Totally exhausted, we were beaming with pride when it was all over, but we cannot wait till November when we do it all over again. Watch this space, folks!

By Juana Bernardo





Hanging and curating 95 paintings by Juana, Shruti, Paquita and Leonie took some time! Below are 3 of the four proud artists (Paquita was in Canada at the time of the show), along with ceramicist, Magaly.





Phil Cawthan - Samford Art Trail

Creative Samford is hosting for the 10th year the Samford & Surrounds Art Trails, for the first four weeks in June. Studio Guides are available from the Slab Hut in Samford or go to the Creative Samford Facebook site. There are around 50 artists displaying again this year.

I am one of six exhibiting at St Paul's Anglican Church Hall and will be doing rolling demonstrations during the days. I would love to see any Watercolour Society members drop in for a chat. (right 'Have a chat' Phil Cawthan)

Phil Cawthan









FREE Sketching Event

WITH THE URBAN SKETCHERS GOLD COAST GROUP Saturday 29th June, 9:00 am, the Village Green Park, Railway Street, Mudgreeaba, QLD

Join us for a morning of Sketching and a DEMONSTRATION by Artist: Tony Walker

This is a FREE event for attendees of "The Doyles Art Awards", members of the Urban Sketchers Gold Coast and residents of local and surrounding communities.

No experience necessary, you'll discover Techniques, Tools and approached used for sketching. Some basic supplies will be available for beginners OR bring your own Art gear

9.00am - Meet in Mudgeeraba Village Green, Railway Street, Mudgeeraba. 9:05am - A brief introduction to sketching by Mark Elms (10 Minutes)

s.upam - A oner introduction to sketching by Mark Elms (10 Minutes)
9:15am - Demonstration of Urban Sketching techniques & tools by well known Artist, Tony Walker (45 Minutes)
10.00am - Find a location in the park and start sketching the surrounding features (buildings, gardens etc)
12.00 Noon - Meet back at the presentation area for the Throw down.
The Throw down is where everyone displays their sketch and you can pick up tips on technique & materials etc
12.30pm - Break for lunch at your own cost and mingle with the members

1.00pm - The sketch meet concludes

We suggest you bring the following:

A folding chair/stool, a hat, an umbrella (if overcast), sunscreen (if sunny), and Water

Your Art gear and an easel, if you need it.
 New to sketching? We'll have paper, pencils, pens available and a paint table where you can try watercolour

Tony Walker is a Brisbane artist who travels throughout Australia and overseas, painting and sketching cityscapes and landscapes. Find out more at https://www.tonywstudio.com

<u>Urban Sketchers Gold Coast</u> is a FREE community group that meets every second Saturday at 9am at locations on the Gold Coast to sketch, draw and paint our beautiful Urban environment. Visit their Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/groups/urbansketchersgoldcoast/





Urban Sketchers Gold Coast

The Group I started 3 years ago, Urban Sketchers Gold Coast, have been invited by The Doyle's Art Awards Committee to stage a sketching event for attendees of the Doyle's. It is a free event, and it will be held in Mudgeeraba on 29 June at 9am. Brisbane Artist, Tony Walker has agreed to do a Demo at the event for us. We would like to invite all Watercolour Society Queensland members to attend. Full details of the event are below.

Mark Elms 🐑



Congratulations to Graham W. Smith who had two works selected for the Brisbane Landscape Prize. His painting "Wynnum Jetty Sunrise" (below left) will be exhibited at Ryans on the Park, Treasury Hotel from 1st June. It will then go on display at Grape Grazing night at the Brisbane EKKA until 15th July. Graham has completed 30 paintings this year so far.

Graham W. Smith also continues to share his knowledge with students.

The example (below right) shows how to paint old gum trees.





Members' Stories

Mandy Rounsefell

I'd like to tell you about my latest little watercolour journey that is keeping me both motivated and regularly getting watercolour back into my life. Although I have been occasionally painting and drawing as long as I can remember, I run my own business so finding or making the time to paint is a challenge. Getting a handy motivation prod every week or two is very helpful!

At the end of last year Charles Sluga (his gallery is in Yackandandah, Victoria) started his online art community, the Sluga Watercolour Academy https://www.slugawatercolouracademy.com.



I'm really enjoying being part of this little online community. Charles sets us regular themed painting challenges and it's a place to share our work, get feedback and to get an insight into Charles' creative process. He actually started the Academy with the idea of showing people his process as he works towards preparing for an exhibition, his thought processes, the ways he approaches ideas, etc. He is doing this, but for a small monthly fee we get so much more – the site has four areas – *Challenges* where he sets us a painting challenge every week or so, and then provides us video and/or written feedback on the paintings we post (and it's nice to get comments and feedback from other members also), *The Exhibition Journey* where he uploads short videos about his journey as he prepares for his next exhibition, *The Hangout* where we post anything art related/general stuff not

relevant to the above and Announcements for general info about what's going on.

It is acknowledged that everybody's painting skills are at different levels; it's not a place for 'formal' individual feedback and lessons, but a supportive online space that enables us to explore the watercolour medium and challenge ourselves with subjects we perhaps wouldn't otherwise tackle. There is a 3-day free trial if you want to check it out, as well as some other tips and materials list for beginners (below are contributions to a few recent *Challenges*).

Mandy Rounsefell





Above: *Kitchen/ Pantry Off the Round* Challenge - go to your pantry or kitchen and choose something to paint and paint it from life (not from a photo)

Left: Rembrandt' Challenge – from etching to paint- turn an etching into a watercolour painting

Right: 'French' Challenge – to 'do a painting that encompasses took me two hours to get breakfast this marning"

French' – titled: "It took me two hours to eat breakfast this morning"



Michael Keenan Taking Advantage of Happy Accidents

Here is an example of a lovely work by Michael Keenan – allowing watercolour to be watercolour, to quote Maria Field. Michael attends both the HUB and the Chermside Watercolour Group sessions along with many others.

Michael's initial painting did not work out the way he planned. However, he now is working <u>with</u> the splatters and runs to create an interesting semi-abstract. You can see what a fresh and beautiful work he is producing.

On this note, please feel able to share your art with other members, even if you are new to watercolour. We can all learn from each other's creativity, and it is interesting to see what our members are up to. You can just include part of a painting if you feel it has worked well.



WSQ members at ArtBurst 2024

This is a note of thanks from the Secretary of the Kenmore Uniting Church Council regarding the participation of some WSQ members in the Church's fund-raising event, ArtBurst.

Dawn wrote: We were thrilled that some of the Watercolour Society Queensland members registered as stall holders for our festival. It was a pleasure to welcome back Shruti Kashikar and Juana Bernardo, and this year they were joined by two more of your members, Leonie Seabrook and Cecilia Xiao. They all generously donated work to be auctioned to raise money for Micah Projects' Home for Good Hub supporting homeless people from the streets into permanent housing.

Although this was the fifth of our now annual ArtBurst Festivals, it was a new venture for us to combine our individual stall holders who independently set up their own space, with an exhibition gallery allowing a wider range of artists to exhibit a small number of works under our management. With our limited experience in exhibitions, we were grateful that Leonie and Shruti, after setting up their own stalls, graciously stepped in to help. Thank you once again.

This year, we introduced art demos and it was wonderful to watch Leonie paint her stunning landscape and her graceful spray of gumtree blossoms and Cecilia her beautiful delicate floral painting. Watching their artistry in action was like witnessing magic unfold, and they both did this with such ease.

Dawn Langford (Secretary, Kenmore Uniting Church Council)





Left: WSQ members' corner at Artburst, right Cecelia demonstrating how to paint an iris

Auction Results











The second auction of workshop tutors' donated paintings was held after the WSQ General Meeting on 21 April. Perhaps the rainy day kept bidders away, a quieter event than the previous one. Several paintings were on offer

with all pieces sold raising \$250 for the Society. Bidding was held in person and by proxy.







The next lot of paintings to be auctioned will be at the Annual Exhibition. If you cannot make it in person, contact Anne Roberts regarding a proxy bid.

From Top to bottom, L – R, Annette Raff (unframed), Paul Margoscy, Ross Paterson (unframed), David Fam, Barry McCain (unframed), Ian de Souza, James Tyler, & John Lovett.

News from Brisbane Painting Groups

Chermside Group – March Challenge



Each Wednesday a casual group of watercolourists (the majority of whom are members of the Watercolour Society) meet to paint a monthly challenge. All submit their finished paintings for critique on the last Wednesday of month.

March's topic was an "abstract portrait of Boris Johnston". All had to do the abstract from the same photo.

Mary Neylan

Maria's WSQ Intermediate Monday Night Class

Here's a look at Maria Field's WSQ intermediate class at work. Recently they have worked on some Sumi-E to loosen up their brushstrokes. Maria has also been helping the students to work on their design skills to improve their paintings. Rana, showing a few of her lovely paintings done in class, adds "It's a wonderful class, technically and socially. Maria teaches us the 'behind the scenes' stuff (that's a technical term) that makes up a painting that pops off the page. We have fun and if there is music sometimes, we even dance!"

Maria Field









Ferie's WSQ Beginner's Course (June 2024)



Ferie recently sent in a photo of her beginner group. "Last Tuesday we were painting 'Lemons'. It was a very good subject for learning the layering technique to bring the lemons to life and make them more realistic!" A very good effort everyone in the beginners. Well done.

See Upcoming Courses & Workshops for details of Ferie's next course.

Social Media

The WSQ Facebook page is back in full-swing. If you're a Facebook user and are not already following, please do! There is also a member only group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/watercoloursocietyqueensland. If you are a member, please considering joining if you are not already part of the group. Follow us online and share the posts or comment, even with a smiley face, to raise WSQ's profile among fellow artists. Don't forget to check in with the new website at https://www.watercoloursocietyofqld.com.au/. It is still a work in progress but as it gets up and running better we will be asking for examples of members' work and artists' profiles down the track. Our Instagram page is not fully functioning just yet, stay tuned.

Upcoming Courses & Workshops

Create Your Own Watercolour **Journal** Workshop

Imagine: Painting in a watercolour journal you made ...

3 Hours Hands-On suitable for all watercolourists including beginners

Beginners skill-level watercolour bookbinding workshop

All materials and tools will be provided.

Limited Spots Available Sign Up Now!

To Register On-line:

www.watercoloursocietyofqld.com.au

Mobile: 0428 320 066

Email: watercoloursocietyqld@gmail.com



The HUB BVAC 140 Weller Road, Tarragindi.

DATE & TIME:

JUNE 29th, 2024 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM

COST:

(per person) (All materials included) Members: \$70 Non-Members: \$85

Create Your Own Watercolour **Continuous Patterns** Workshop

Imagine: Your watercolour designs on fabric ...

3 Hours Hands-On suitable for all watercolourists including beginners

Beginners skill-level watercolour bookbinding workshop

All materials and tools will be provided.

Limited Spots Available Sign Up Now!

To Register On-line:

www.watercoloursocietyofqld.com.au

Mobile: 0428 320 066

Email: watercoloursocietygld@gmail.com



140 Weller Road. Tarragindi.

DATE & TIME: JULY 6th, 2024

1:30 PM to 4:30 PM

COST:

(All materials included) Members: \$50 Non-Members: \$65

8 week Beginner Watercolour Course

with Ferie Sadeghi - Oct 1st - Nov 19th 2024

The Watercolour Society of Queensland is offering an 8 week beginner watercolour course. This course is for beginners who want to learn watercolour techniques, washes and layering. You will learn how to easily paint vibrant flowers, birds and landscapes, and learn techniques such as simplifying shapes and negative painting. We will give you easy watercolour projects to accomplish in the class.

When: Every Tuesday morning 9:30 am - 12:30 __ Oct 1st - Nov 19th

Where: WSQ Hub. 140 Weller Road, Tarragindi

Cost: \$350 for 8 classes for members of WSQ, or \$400 for non-members. Full payment is required when booking the course. Cost includes tea breaks but not materials: students must provide their own materials. A materials list will be provided upon enquiry or booking. Please note that the course will only run if there are at least 6 students, and the maximum class size is 12.

Refunds will be given in the case of a lockdown or if the number of students is less than six.

Contact: To book, contact Ferie at ferietaylor@yahoo.com.au or 0403 450 640 Payment details will be emailed upon booking with a materials list.

To view Ferie's work visit her Instagram @ferietaylor







Upcoming Art Competitions

Sunny Art Prize 2024: The Sunny Art Prize is calling for applications from visual artists from all over the world for their 2024 edition. The art competition is open to everyone, regardless of location or preferred medium and theme. The Sunny Art Prize has established itself as one of the UK's most prestigious international art competitions. The scope of this contemporary art prize is sourcing the most talented artists from all over the world, established and emerging.

https://www.sunnyartcentre.co.uk/artprize/ Deadline: 30 June

Gosford Art Prize 2024: The annual Gosford Art Prize has been a feature of the Gosford Regional Gallery program since the early 1970s and is a cultural highlight of our region. Gosford Art Prize is open to Australian practicing artists in any medium and is a cultural highlight of the region.

https://www.judgify.me/gosfordartprize2024 Entries close Monday 8 July 2024, 4pm

Mt Gravatt Show – Painting, Drawing & Art Competition: Show off your talents at the Mt Gravatt Show and enter the exclusive Mt Gravatt Show competitions!

https://www.mtgravattshow.com.au/competitions/ Entries close 22 July

Paddington Art Prize: now in its 21st year for a painting inspired by the Australian Landscape.

https://www.paddingtonartprize.com.au/ Entries close 18 August

Shirley Hannan National Portrait Award 2024 (SECCA): The Award celebrates realistic portraiture in memory of artist, patron and avid supporter of the arts, Shirley Hannan. The Award requires that selected works accurately depict their subjects without abstraction and demonstrate proficient skills and knowledge of drawing and painting techniques. The submission must be a painting. It can be in any media eg. oils, acrylic, watercolour, mixed media.

https://secca.com.au/exhibition/shirley-hannan-portrait-award-2024/ Closes Sept 30 2024

Casual Thursday Painting

Can't find the time and space to focus on your painting? Do you want to share ideas, techniques, tips, and hints? Or just have some "me time" do some painting? Come and join your fellow artists for Casual Painting Thursday. Our Library is open with lots of books to inspire you. Casual painting costs \$5 which includes morning tea and is held on the first, third and fifth Thursday mornings of the month from 9.30am – 12.30pm.

WSQ Library

Please come and check out our extensive collection of over 500 books and 130 DVDs. Members can borrow from an interesting range of Australian and International watercolour art magazines and reference books. You are also welcome to browse the extensive reference-only collection.

WSQ members can hire two DVDs for four weeks at a cost of only \$10. Cost covers packaging and postage. You can borrow up

to four books from the HUB library for one month, but books must be returned personally to the HUB premises, because it is too costly to mail books.

All book and DVD returned MUST BE PLACED IN THE RETURN BOX.

Location: The Hub at Weller Rd. Tarragindi,

When: 1st, 3rd, 5th Thursday each month, 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.

Contact Shruti for assistance. Email: wsqlibrary1@gmail.com



Annual Membership

New members: An initial \$15 joining fee plus \$55 for the for year (\$70). **Continuing members:** Cost \$55 Includes discounts for Workshop attendance.

Payment methods:

- Through the website: https://www.watercoloursocietyofqld.com.au/membership
- By Direct Debit at Commonwealth Bank. BSB: 064-405 Account NO: 0092 1834 Reference: YOUR NAME + "Membership"
 - You must also email the Secretary at watercoloursocietyqld@gmail.com giving your name and contact details and attaching proof ofpayment
- Pay by card at the Hub during casual painting mornings (1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays of each month)

Committee Vacancies

Workshop coordinator

If you feel unable to take on a position, please consider offering some assistance for Anne to help with the many roles that she is doing (currently President, Secretary and temporary Workshop Coordinator). Email her at watercoloursocietyqld@gmail.com to see how you can help run the Society.

Trading Post

If you have anything arty in good condition that you no longer use, advertise it for sale in this newsletter. Just send in a picture and a brief description with your name and preferred contact details.

Our Sponsors for the Annual Exhibition

Watercolour Society of Queensland Inc. proudly acknowledges the support of our sponsors. The sponsors for prizes at the Annual Exhibition were Arthouse Northside, Frame Warehouse and Tread Softly Wines, so a big shout out to those organisations.

- Arthouse Northside Deagon,
- Artis Pura Custom Framing Annerley
- Faber Castell
- Frame Warehouse Ashgrove and Capalaba
- Jasco
- Oxlades Art Supplies
- RGB Digital
- Seniors Art
- Tread Softly Wines
- Winsor & Newton















