



GDAS NEWS

PO Box 71 Goulburn NSW 2580 ~ www.artsociety.goulburn.net.au ~ goulburnartsociety@gmail.com

Next Meeting

Thursday

13 June, 11am

at our new home in the
Council's Old Depot,
cnr Combermere & Bourke Sts.

GOULBURN & DISTRICT ART SOCIETY INC.

PO Box 71, Goulburn Nsw 2580

www.artsociety.goulburn.net.au

goulburnartsociety@gmail.com

[www.facebook.com/
goulburnanddistrictartsociety](https://www.facebook.com/goulburnanddistrictartsociety)

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Our first meeting in The Art Studio 10th May 2019. Photo by Katya Mortensen.

President Writes

We had our first meeting at our studio in Bourke St with 12 members attending, which is very good to see. As yet we have not signed a contract with the Council, Lesley and I will be going to see the Council next Thursday and hopefully seeing a contract to sign.

Once we have a contract then we can start to do some work, like putting up a wall so it will be easier to heat the area and making a storage area.

I am starting to look at artists for workshops, so if you have any suggestions about an artist who you would like to come and do a workshop for us, please let me know.

I have just come back from New Zealand and found that the North Island art scene is very much into Acrylics and Oil but did not see very much Watercolour. Some of the artists that I saw did very inspirational Acrylics. It has made me think we need to have a few different acrylic workshops.

Please come along to our next meeting on the 13th June, as we need input and your thoughts on our studio, as well as planning the October Art Prize.

Happy Painting.
Helen

June Meeting

We need members to attend this as not only will we be having the normal monthly meeting but we will be meeting to further develop plans for the Annual Art Prize that will be held in October.

It is important for members to participate in this meeting if possible. It is also important that members volunteer to do some of the necessary tasks to help make the Annual Art Prize another one of our successes. Don't leave it to just a few members to do everything, please. The more who participate, the better.

2019 – The Best Year Ever for the GDAS? YES, YES.

Our May meeting, attended by 12 members, was in The Art Studio, the GDAS home from now on. The Art Studio will more and more become our art society home once we put in the dividing wall, paint the floor, install heating and fans, add some tea making utensils and so on in the kitchen and of course have some easels and art around. We already have some comfortable lounge chairs and a low table with a collection of art books on it.

The more members who come to The Art Studio and use it the better. It can become not only a working space for us but a valuable social place in which we meet.

Alex Mortensen, Editor

Other Exhibitions & Events

■ TARALGA ART SHOW

8-10 June 2019. You can get information by emailing: taralgaartshow@gmail.com

■ **BDAS** There are a number of interesting things happening at Bowral www.bdasgallery.com

■ ASOC

May 25-26 "Simple, Strong, Striking Watercolours" Tony Smith.

July 6-7 "The Sketchbook Habit" Amanda McLean

Nov 16-25 Spring Art Exhibition. <https://asoc.net.au>

■ **Monaro Art Group** will also have a Spring Art Exhibition. Details for this and for workshops can be seen on www.monaroartgroup.com.au

■ Shoalhaven Art Society

August 3-31 SAS Open Exhibition at Shoalhaven Regional Gallery <https://shoalhavenartsociety.wordpress.com>

GDAS Website

Members, please email a few images of your art works so our webmaster could include your work on the website.

Email: alexgamort@gmail.com

Instagram

At the May meeting it was decided that we should have an Instagram account. What we need is a member to volunteer to administer this account for us. The members who currently have jobs within our art society have enough to do, so we really do need some other member to volunteer for this task.

You will need to be proactive in that you will select appropriate information from meetings and the newsletter and post it in brief versions to accompany images on Instagram.

Please contact Helen to advise her that you will do the job.



Name For Our New Home

It was decided at this stage to design a large sign to go on the walls of the building to incorporate logo and the words: THE ART STUDIO, GOULBURN & DISTRICT ART SOCIETY and for other and more common usage to refer to it as GDAS THE ART STUDIO.

Of course in our newsletters and so on we would just call it The Art Studio. Further consideration will be given and a firm decision made at the next meeting.



Donations

Thank you, Marg Parry, for your donation of an easel and a number of art books for our library. They will be much appreciated by our members. The lounge and low table were left there for us by the Council. Other donations will be acknowledged in future editions.

Welcome To New Member

At the May meeting, we were pleased to grant membership to Mr Kim Warwick. We hope to see you, Kim, at our meetings if possible for you to attend and at various of our activities once we have our new art studio organised. There will be regular painting days and workshops that you will be welcome to participate in.

Archibald Winner 2019

Tony Costa, Lindy Lee. Oil on canvas, 182.5 x 152 cm.

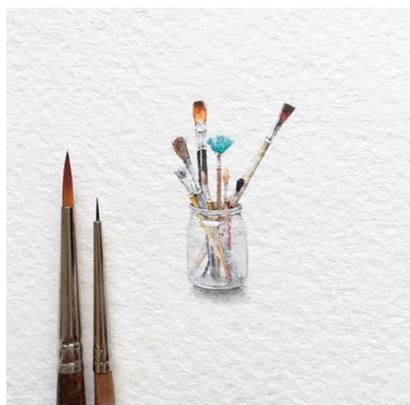
What is your opinion of it? Please send it to the editor to open a discussion.

<https://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/prizes/archibald/2019/30110/>





This book *How to Paint Miniatures* by Robert Hughes and Elizabeth Johnson is available in town library. It was published in 1994 but there are several good pieces of advice for artists.



These images show some other ideas for miniatures.

Irene Malakhova's images give us a good idea of miniaturisation. She has shown her w/colour brushes placed against the miniature of artist brushes in jar (about 3.5cms high) and her windmill with a pencil point and sharpener near it. A big windmill has been reduced to a few cms in height.

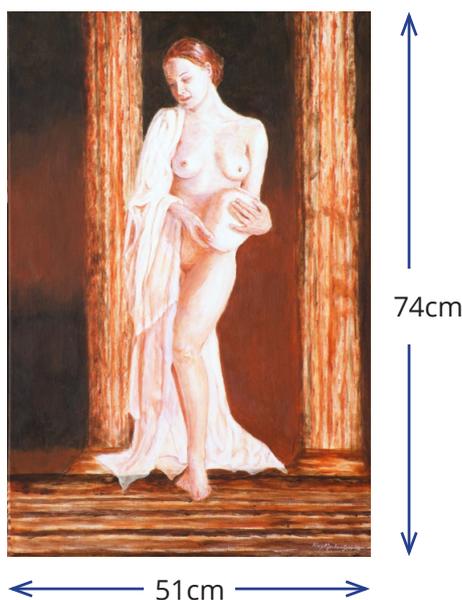
Source: Instagram @irene_mia_

On the Subject of Miniatures

The idea of miniaturisation is a problem for many artists. It's even hard to define, but if we keep in mind that we need to follow the **spirit of miniaturisation** we might get somewhere. It is to paint on a small scale, even a very small scale if you can manage to do so. It's difficult to do as you need to use small and very small brushes such as 000, 00, 0, 1 and 2 and may need to use a magnifying glass to help you. Of course some artists may have excellent eyesight and not need the latter.

What miniaturisation isn't: it isn't merely what would be a part of a larger painting "cut out" and put into that small frame. You can easily check out this idea by looking at a miniature of a head of a person or animal at, say, the maximum size of 10x10cms. If you then imagine the remainder of the person or animal it's really just part of a much larger painting. If you put the whole person into a miniature, it will certainly be in the spirit of miniaturisation.

For last year's Annual Art Prize I was doing an oil miniature of my nude, *Vestal Virgin at the Temple* (74 x 51cms). The miniature was 7.5x4.5cms (a total of 24cms perimeter). I was reasonably satisfied with the progress on the body, the gown and the background. For the life of me I could not paint the face with its tiny details and the hands to my satisfaction. Finally, in sheer frustration, I gave up. Of course I didn't enter it. Perhaps I'll get to and work on it some more – after I buy some smaller brushes.



Work in progress. You can see why I was not satisfied!

So remember the rules the GDAS has for miniatures in the Annual Art Prize:

- The **spirit of miniaturisation** is to be followed.
- The perimeter (the measurement around the sides of the painting) to be no more than 40 cms. That is it could be 10x10, 12x8, 11x9cms for instance as maximum sizes and, of course, anything smaller than that. You might end up with one that has a perimeter of only 20cms (a 5x5cm painting) or even smaller. The frame should not exceed 120 cms perimeter (sides of 30 cms each). It's worth thinking of just how big the frame and mount should be for your miniature and the type of frame that looks best for yours.

If you have a go, good luck!

Alex Mortensen

More Goulburn Art History

The following have been provided by our member, Margaret Kearns, who has written and published a book *Coming Home to Goulburn: Celebrating the Life and Art of Ethel Clara Liggins*. It includes a section on a wonderful Goulburn artist, Mary Amelia Will-Slade (1877-1957).



Mary Amelia Will-Slade.

ART SOCIETY FOR GOULBURN.

A meeting was held at the Town Hall on Thursday afternoon with a view of forming an art society. About 20 ladies and several gentlemen were in attendance. The Mayor occupied the chair and explained the object of the meeting. Miss W. A. Will Slade, hon. sec. pro. tem, and Archdeacon Bartlett occupied seats alongside the Mayor.

Archdeacon Bartlett moved the first resolution, viz., "That this meeting is of opinion that it is desirable to establish an art society in Goulburn." He said that while he could not paint a haystack he thought he could tell a good picture from a bad one. From what he had seen it seemed to him that there was room for much improvement in the art of Goulburn. Such a society as was suggested was needed, but the only way to get good work done was to have some one—say from Sydney or Melbourne—to ruthlessly criticise the various paintings submitted for exhibition. At the last exhibition he had tried to get together a number of pictures, and while one or two of the paintings gave great hope the majority were lacking very much in art. He was sure that Miss Will Slade with a lengthy knowledge had felt there was something wanting. He hoped that the day would come when the walls of the Town Hall would be hung with the work of local artists.

Goulburn Evening Penny Post,
Saturday 4 June 1904, page 4

A Historical Occasion

Our GDAS May meeting was held in The Art Studio, our new home. While there is much for us to do to prepare the room for our regular use, it was a feeling of participating in a historical event as, at long last, we have a home. The photo of the meeting is our front page feature.

Mary Amelia Will-Slade (1877-1957)

Mary Amelia Will-Slade (1877-1957) was the daughter of William Slade and his wife, Amelia Bennett. After completing 5 years training at Sydney Technical College, Mary moved to Goulburn in 1901 to take up a new appointment as art teacher at Goulburn Technical College. In 1904 she was the founding secretary of the Goulburn Art Society.

Although Mary returned to Sydney in 1915, she maintained her connection to Goulburn. In 1925, the *Country Life Stock and Station Journal* reported: "Miss Will-Slade, a well-known member of the Women Painters' Society, has been working in the country. She has just returned from Goulburn and Crookwell, and has brought back with her many attractive, rural scenes which she painted whilst there."

Mary Will-Slade was an exhibiting member of the Royal Art Society and the Society of Women Painters, and was a finalist in the Archibald Prize for portraiture in 1928, 1929, 1930 and 1931.

Published 2018.



Portrait by Mary Amelia Will-Slade.

Art Society For Goulburn

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The resolution was put to the meeting and unanimously carried. The Mayor said that four or five other resolutions were upon the business paper; but he thought that a committee of from eight to twelve should be formed to carry out details and report to a future meeting. After some deliberation it was decided to elect Bishop Barlow patron, Mr. Sach president, and Archdeacon Bartlett, Father O'Sullivan, Messrs. E. L. Maitland, A. B. Chisholm, and E. O. Bryden vice presidents. The details as to rules, dates of exhibitions, fees, etc., were then entrusted to the following committee: Mesdames Burkitt, A. and W. Chisholm, Hollis, E. F. Thomas, Misses Riley, Sheaffe, and Messrs. Sands (Gunning), P. J. Meyer, and Dr. Handcock. The committee was given power to add to its number and it was understood that Miss Will-Slade would continue to act as secretary.

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Our Sponsors

The GDAS has numerous sponsors who give us a variety of forms of sponsorship that is of great assistance to the running of our organisation. We thank them all.



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Shoalhaven Art Society

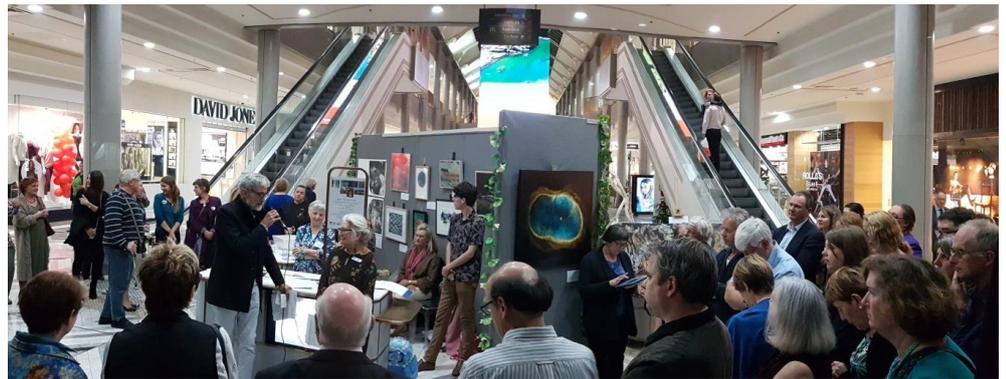
Shoalhaven Art Society had a successful Berry exhibition recently. From their newsletter:

"The exhibition was deemed a great success with 14 paintings sold over the Easter weekend" by 6 members. "We had a total of over 400 visitors in those few days which is great, but we would like to see more next year and are looking into better ways of advertising."

Great job, Shoalhaven!



Painting by Merrin Jeff was the raffle prize.



ASOC/ACT Region Catchment Groups Art Exhibition

The exhibition was held in a new venue and I couldn't resist copying this extract from ASOC's newsletter (Ed.):

"The opening ceremony, on the ground floor of the Canberra Centre, was an event to be remembered. It was an absolutely packed house. It coincided with Canberra late night shopping, so ASOC artists, other artists who entered, their guests along with very many interested shoppers, gathered to view the exhibition and listen to the judges very considered comments about the works on display.

More than one person I spoke to that night thought having art in the Canberra Centre was an absolute brain wave and that there should definitely be much more of it. "It brings the Centre to life" one passer exclaimed.

It was not only the late night shoppers who stopped to look at this exhibition. Every day and especially at lunch time, passersby stopped to look and appreciate art, watch the demonstrations by our members and learn about ASOC - what we do and where we are in Canberra. The exhibition has certainly lifted the profile and presence of ASOC. And I think the general consensus is - the public want MORE. And soon." Congratulations, ASOC, on a job well done.

“ If we go for the easy way, we never change.

Marina Abramović

Marina Abramović is a Yugoslav performance artist. Her art explores the relationship between performer and audience and the limits of the body.

<https://line25.com/inspiration/artist-quotes-that-will-ignite-your-inspiration>