



GDAS NEWS

NEXT MEETING

**Thursday
12 November, 10am**

at the ART STUDIO,
2 Bourke St, Goulburn

GOULBURN & DISTRICT ART SOCIETY INC.

📍 The Art Studio, The Old Council
Depot, Cnr Combermere &
Bourke Sts, Goulburn

✉ PO Box 71 Goulburn NSW 2580

🌐 www.artsociety.goulburn.net.au

📧 goulburnartsociety@gmail.com

📘 @goulburnanddistrictartsociety

📷 @goulburnanddistrictartsociety

COMMITTEE

President	Judith Dimitrov
Vice President	Barbara Nell
Secretary	Margaret Parry
Treasurer	Gail Davies
Assistant Treasurer	Janet Fisher
Committee members	Christine Bentley

PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

Memberships	Gail Davies
Public Officer	Bryce Ronning
Newsletter Editor	Alex Mortensen
Web Master & Graphic Designer	Katya Mortensen
Workshop Coordinator	Gail Davies
Social Media Coordinator	Judith Dimitrov
Sports Council Delegate	Judith Dimitrov

Our Constitution - download at
https://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/word_doc/0020/1143605/Model-Constitution-for-Associations-2024-5-31.docx



Opening night on 2nd October 2026. Photo by Katya Mortensen.

THE 25TH GOULBURN WORKERS CLUB ANNUAL ART PRIZE 2026

The Opening Night was a great success being officially opened by Goulburn Workers Club Board Member, John Norris, opened the exhibition. Our president, Judith Dimitrov, thanked all of our sponsors for their generous donations of money and in kind. Without them we would not have the ability to have \$8100 in prize money. The Goulburn Workers Club, generously provides the fantastic space for the exhibition during a prime weekend and the Workers Sports Council is another generous donor of money supporting young artists. TopShot provided the Heritage prize and sponsorship.

It was well attended with over 100 consisting of GDAS members, other artists and visitors. Among them was Councillor Bob Kirk who has artistic talent and is always interested in this exhibition and the GDAS. The Goulburn Mulwaree Council continues to be a great supporter of community events such as our exhibition and provided financial support for our success.

Thank you to all who attended the Opening Night. Everyone appeared to enjoy the plentiful, delectable food catered by the GWC kitchen staff and most importantly they gathered to see the judges, Ruth Waller and Anthea Da Silva and the Young Artist judge, Mandy McDonald present the prizes to the winning artists. The crowd dispersed to wander around viewing the prize-winning entries and all the other excellent art works along with Bill Dorman's creative sculptures. It's always interesting to hear some viewer's comments about the judges'

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COMMITTEE REPORT

The annual exhibition is finished and by all metrics it was a success. Our attendance numbers were up and we have a number of new members. The community response to the Young Artist Prize has been overwhelming and we already have volunteers for next year's event. We have a long list of first time entries in addition to our novice group who had never entered any exhibition before. All of this points to growth of The Art Society and is encouraging for the future. On Thursday evening 15 October we held a 'bring a plate' evaluation meeting to discuss what went right and what can be improved in next year's exhibition. We had two goals in mind, the first was evaluation, the second was to see if an evening event was more suitable meeting time. We created a list of improvement measures and enjoyed some great food. Let us know if an evening meeting time works better for you.

We signed the MOU with Queanbeyan Art Society on Thursday 8 October giving us all the opportunity to be involved in workshops and exhibition with members benefits. Keep an eye open for an announcement of their 2027 Schedule. The GDAS 2027 schedule of activities is being developed by The Committee now and should be ready early in December. Both will be part of our new look website which will be launched in the New Year.

We have a Christmas party coming up soon and we will let you know the details. It will be similar to last year, a picnic style family event held at the studio.

You probably already have heard that Katya and Alex are moving out of the area and headed to the North Coast. Not only is this a huge loss for the Art Society because of decades of contribution, it is a personal loss because Alex and Katya are wonderful friends. "Thank You" to them both. We hope that you find a creative space to make beautiful art. Love and best wishes to you both.

Judith Dimitrov, President



THE 25TH GOULBURN WORKERS CLUB ANNUAL ART PRIZE 2026

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selections and what they considered should have been awarded prizes. This happens at every exhibition here and elsewhere. Congratulations to all those who won a prize or a Highly Commended – well done! Special congratulations to well-known local artist, Barbara Nell for being awarded the overall art prize in the exhibition, something to which artists always aspire.

During the exhibition over 500 people passed through it to view 238 works of art created by 52 artists and 19 young artists from the local area and much further afield. Nineteen of the viewers decided they should join the GDAS and their applications were approved at the October GDAS meeting.

Special mention should be made of the GDAS members who did such a great job of organisation for the exhibition, to those who worked hard setting it up, to those who were on duty throughout it and to those who helped pull it down. GDAS member, Bryce Ronning, stood out in his efforts. Thank you, Bryce! There's so much effort by members behind the scenes to pull it off so well.

Alex Mortensen



A new look of catalogues this year and special 25th anniversary information kits about GDAS and vouchers.



WINNERS OF ANNUAL ART PRIZE 2026

MAJOR PRIZE OVERALL WINNER GOULBURN

WORKERS CLUB: Barbara Nell, *Twice Transplanted*

SECTION A – OIL

1st PRIZE: Sukhvinder Saggu, *Out of Shell*

2nd PRIZE: Arlene Williams, *Kiss in the Garden*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Bryce Ronning, *Retirement*

SECTION B – WATERCOLOUR/PEN & WASH

1st PRIZE: Susan Pearson, *Paris at Dusk*

2nd PRIZE: Oliver Cheng, *Landscape I*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Oliver Cheng, *Landscape II*

SECTION C – ACRYLICS

1st PRIZE: Elise Bennett, *A Dusting of Gold*

2nd PRIZE: Ekaterina Mortensen, *Bushland Trio*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Fiona Hayward,
It's a Jungle Out There

SECTION D – DRAWINGS

1st PRIZE: Sonja Bowden, *Tally-Ho*

2nd PRIZE: Daniel Edwards, *Marker #4*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Susan Dicksbury,
Strutting His Stuff

SECTION E – OTHER MEDIA

1st PRIZE: Arlene Williams, *Lake Ginninderra Belconnen*

2nd PRIZE: Penny Saxton, *Trampolining with Nigel*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Jodie Mundy, *Fathers Love*

SECTION F – MINIATURES

1st PRIZE: Madeleine Szymanski, *Sun and Shadow*

2nd PRIZE: Sukhvinder Saggu, *Easy Breakfast Study*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Oliver Cheng, *Landscape IV*

SECTION G – GDAS MEMBERS

1st PRIZE: Barbara Nell, *Twice Transplanted*

2nd PRIZE: Margaret Wheeler, *Poppies*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Ekaterina Mortensen,
Sunrise

SECTION H – HERITAGE

1st PRIZE: Rob Bender, *Hoyts Theatre, Goulburn*

2nd PRIZE: Barry Clarke, *Goulburn Railway Workshop 1963*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Susan Pearson, *Goulburn Roof Tops at Dusk*

SECTION I – NOVICE

1st PRIZE: Annalisa Yeo, *For the Scrapyard*

2nd PRIZE: Pamela Stevenson, *Getting Rid of the Blues*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Kayla Keys, *Quiet Watcher*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Jo Cameron, *The Bolt from the Blue*

SECTION J – PHOTOGRAPHY and DIGITAL ART

1st PRIZE: Gail Davies, *Target Acquired*

2nd PRIZE: Geoff Henderson, *Eumundi Man*

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Sukhvinder Saggu, *Foggy Morning at Lake George*

PEOPLES CHOICE

Fiona Hayward, *It's a Jungle Out There*

Elise Bennett, *A Dusting of Gold*

SECTION Y – YOUNG ARTIST

1st PRIZE: Darcy Coble, *A Fresh Bouquet*

2nd PRIZE: Evelyn Dark, *An Array of Being a Muscial Scene*

HIGHLY COMMENDED:

Ella-Grace, *Aivaliotis Vintage Violin*

Vincent Bill, *Sleeping Link*

Evelyn Dark, *Vernality*

Poppy Stephenson, *Cubism*

PEOPLES CHOICE IN SECTION Y:

Vincent Bill, *Sleeping Link*



Bill Dorman drawing the raffle prizes on 5 October 2026. Photo by Margaret Parry.

RECOUNT OF PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

On the last day of the Exhibition Elise Bennett was announced as the People's Choice with her artwork C5 – *A Dusting of Gold*. In the following days of the exhibition a recount was requested of People's Choice Award, and a tie was discovered between Elise Bennett and Fiona Hayward. Both artworks deserve the recognition and a second People's Choice has been awarded to Fiona for C19 – *It's a Jungle Out There*. We are also awarding Young Artist People's Choice giving it to the young artist that had the most votes: Vincent Bill – Y5 – *Sleeping Link* which he also received a Highly Commended for Young Artist.

Congratulations to Elise, Fiona and Vincent on being recognised by the community for their achievements!

EDITORIAL

This is my last editorial for the GDAS newsletter as Ekaterina and I are moving to Bellbird Heights near Cessnock. It's just a little too far to take an active part in the GDAS but we will always take a strong interest in the activities of this organisation and as life members we will always belong to it. When visiting Goulburn in the future we will endeavour to attend a meeting or any other GDAS event. I have mostly enjoyed being the editor but sometimes nearly tore my head out when a member might say that he/she didn't know about something – and that something had been in the newsletter! So please, pretty please members, always read your newsletter as that is what your editor always trusts and hopes you will do. Much effort has gone into it. I'd like to give my thanks to all those who have contributed to the GDAS newsletter over the years, for their contributions have always made it more interesting. As Ekaterina has always used her skills as a graphic designer to produce the newsletter, I sincerely thank her (and if I didn't, I think I'd be in serious and deserved trouble). Without my wife's efforts, it would have been a far lesser production. We both greatly appreciated it when we received written and verbal compliments about the newsletter.

It's so pleasing to have to report in this edition about the very successful Annual Art Exhibition, the record 19 new member applications, the 5 Life Member Awards that are probably another record and the signing of the MOU.

We will miss being an active part of the GDAS but I daresay we will find another group of artists in the near vicinity of our new home.

So farewell to all our readers.

Alex Mortensen signing off.



Alex Mortensen getting lucky door tickets at the opening night with Fiona Hayward and Christine Bentley at the desk.



Alan & Lesley Whitten and Helen De Jonge presented their Life member certificates by GDAS President Judith Dimitrov. Alex & Ekaterina Mortensen are the other 2 Life Members but not in this photo.

LIFE MEMBERS

The GDAS Committee deemed Leslie Whitten, Alan Whitten, Helen De Jonge, Ekaterina Mortensen and Alex Mortensen as members worthy of being awarded Life Membership. This was due to their many years of service during which they have unstintingly done valuable work for the GDAS. Leslie Whitten worked so hard as secretary for many a long year and did the bulk of the cataloguing and everything else for organising the annual exhibitions. Alan Whitten, non-artist, was a great president and a hard-working treasurer for many a year. Helen De Jonge has been a dedicated president for some 12 years – a long time to hold that important position. Alex Mortensen served as treasurer early this century, vice-president and editor for numerous years. Ekaterina Mortensen, graphic designer and webmaster, produced every leaflet, advertisement, attractive newsletter, created and maintained the website for years.

MEETING & EXHIBITION REVIEW

Thursday 15 October at 5:30 pm we had a special members meeting to discuss the exhibition, what went well, what can be improved and ideas for next year. This was a bring a plate event to share and we spend some time together to discuss how we can improve on what was a very successful event.



ANNUAL ART PRIZE 2026 OPENING NIGHT



ANNUAL ART PRIZE 2026 WINNING WORKS





Darcy Coble receiving her Young Artists First place Certificate for her artwork *A Fresh Bouquet* delivered to her in Belmore Park.



Helen De Jonge selling raffle tickets at the opening night.



Signing of MOU with Queanbeyan Artists Society at Lerida Winery 8 October 2026.

SPEECH FOR A/G PRESIDENT – SIGNING OF THE 2026-2027 MOU BETWEEN GDAS & QAS

GDAS Committee members, QAS Committee, friends, and fellow artists.

Today we mark a meaningful moment for our regional arts community. By signing this Memorandum of Understanding between the Goulburn & District Art Society and the Queanbeyan Art Society, we recognise a partnership built on shared values, mutual respect, and a commitment to strengthening artistic opportunities across our region.

This agreement is practical in its intent and generous in its spirit. It allows our members to exhibit, learn, and participate more broadly, while preserving the identity and governance of each society. In doing so, it expands creative pathways, supports emerging and established artists alike, and reinforces the collaborative culture that underpins strong community arts organisations.

I want to acknowledge the goodwill and constructive engagement shown by everyone involved in shaping this MOU. Your efforts ensure



that this partnership is clear, workable, and beneficial for both societies.

We look forward to a year of shared opportunities, strengthened networks, and continued support for the arts in Goulburn, Queanbeyan, and beyond.

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Queanbeyan Art Society, to sign this Memorandum of Understanding and to affirm our commitment to this collaborative partnership.

Stuart Wiscombe

Judith Dimitrov followed up Stewart's speech that covered it all by adding that Alex & Katya Mortensen were instrumental in the initial meeting of the two organisations and were sorry they won't be here to see the outcome.

PASTEL WORKSHOP 2026

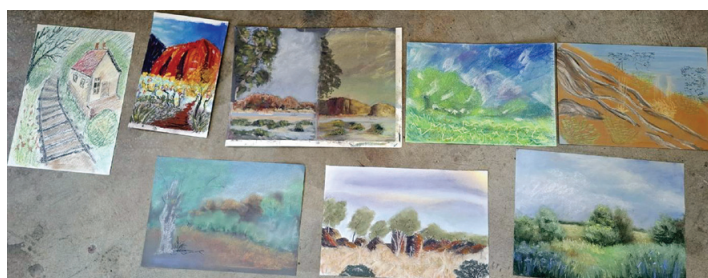
The aim of the workshop was to become familiar with using pastel. Learning how to develop an artwork through creative play was the approach to help the process of making marks and producing textures through intuition.

A series of three experimental works were produced from one reference image. The exercise was about invention through process, discovering ways to manipulate the medium in an endeavour to produce a variety of signature marks.

There is an immediacy to the tactile nature of pastel, resulting in a sensory process. Those who

attended learnt that the combination of pressure, grip, friction and layering in different variations are the foundations for using soft pastel with success.

Amanda Zurek



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

It seems that 19 applications for membership is a record number of new member applications to be approved at the one meeting. It certainly was far more than any this century. These were all visitors to the Annual Art Prize. There was a 20th membership approved as a special situation: Alan Whitten was awarded Life Membership and although he is not an artist he has been an invaluable member for a long time during which he had served as president and for many years as Treasurer, so with that award it was necessary to grant membership to him as he had let it lapse.

We are delighted to welcome our new members and trust they will take very active parts in our art society. We'd love to see you at our Thursday painting days, at our meetings where you can put forward your suggestions, at our workshops, entering works in our exhibitions and taking part in the organisation and running of them. Always feel free to contribute items to the newsletter editor so they may be included in our regular publications.

These new members are:
 Bhoomi Brazel, Heather Linford, Bronwen Wicks, Kathy Ross, Bethany Hough, Dan Duffy, Linda Gear, John Bell, Jacqui Ennever, Mary Silk, Rosa Ferraro, Ruby Petersen, Rowena Jenkins, Trish Morrison, Cheryl Wilson, Lisa Thomas, Kathy Fitzsimmons, Kathy Field and last but not least, Barry Clarke.
 Alan Whitten – Life Member,
 We welcome all of you!

WORKSHOP IN OCTOBER

Mandy McDonald Gelli
Printing workshop Saturday 31 October. Cost \$25 for members, \$40 for non-members – all materials will be supplied. This workshop is still open but again, a lot of interest and filling fast.



**Crookwell & District
Art Gallery**

ART ON THE RANGE 2026

6–8 November 2026

Delivery of Artworks

1st November, 11am – 2pm

Pick-up unsold Artworks

8th November 2026, 3pm – 5pm

Entry fee \$20.

Denison Street, Crookwell NSW 2583

Any enquiries please contact
 Darian Cameron the CDAG
 Secretary darianc52@gmail.com



ATTENTION ALL PASTEL ARTISTS

Shadows in the Landscape Pastel Workshop with Caroline Reid

There are still a few places available in Caroline's workshop – Shadows in the Landscape. The workshop will run from 9am Saturday, **21 November to 4pm on Sunday, 22 November** at the Queanbeyan Art Society's Gallery in Trinculo Street Queanbeyan. You can reserve your place in the workshop by going to the [Humanitix website](https://www.humanitix.com.au).

In this immersive weekend soft pastel workshop with Caroline Reid we will learn how to apply the science of light to various types of shadows.

By studying the nature of shadows cast by rocks, those within and cast by clouds, and shadows that form beneath and within trees, we'll discover how to enliven shadows and make them a highlight, not an afterthought to, our landscape paintings.

Through demonstrations and guided exercises, you'll learn why shadows are not the absence of light, but are alive with colour.

After guided exercises, you will finish the weekend by producing a luminous shadowy landscape applying the principles and techniques learned.





SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER EXHIBITION

WALKING THE LINE featuring DENISE MOULE

Ph 0450 893 943 or 02 6238 1640
Open 10am – 4.30pm Fri – Mon
42b Ellendon St, Bungendore
www.bungendorefineart.com.au



2026 BASIL SELLERS ART PRIZE

Exhibition Dec 5 – Jan 30, 2027
\$55k total prize pool held in Moruya.

Open to all artists. Supports 2D work with covered courier fees and \$100 framing subsidy for finalists.

Entries close: Sept 11, 2026,
Finalists: Oct 16, Winners: Dec 4.



EXHIBITION AT GALLERY ON TRACK

"Horizons" will be the next exhibition at Gallery on Track, this will be demonstrating the marvellous work of **Penny Saxton and Karen Egan**, two of our well respected and very talented artists who have had their work shown extensively. The opening will be October 3 at 2pm, please join us to meet Karen and Penny and other Members of your local artistic community.



ARTS BUNDANOON PORTRAIT PRIZE AND EXHIBITION 2027

\$4500 total prize money
25 March - 11 April 2027

CWA Rooms, Railway Avenue,
Bundanoon

Entries close 19 February 2027

For further Information and application form, visit www.artsbundanoon.org.au



PASTELMAT AND PASTELGRAIN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

September 17 – October 26

Share your creation on Instagram account and enter for the chance to be one of 13 winners.

Pastel artists from around the world, it's your time to create. Take inspiration from the theme "Cozy Moments", share your artistic universe and get the chance to win some amazing prizes!

For more information, follow:
@clairefontaine_finearts and
@pastelmat_clairefontaine on Instagram.



MEMBERS EXHIBITION

Members' Annual Exhibition
-- Visual Arts Society of Yass (VASY)

**Thursday 5 to Sunday 8
November**

Tyger Gallery in Yass
www.vasyinc.com



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR GENEROUS 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 throughout the year and our annual exhibition. We thank them all.



**THE WORKERS CLUB
SPORTS COUNCIL**



**OZART
FINDER**



**ANDREW LIN
DENTIST**

**PAUL
O'ROURKE**



THANK YOU

TO ALL OUR SPONSORS FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

NEW SPONSORS ARE WELCOME!

PAYMENTS TO GDAS

Bendigo Bank BSB 633-000 Acc. No 200104032

Acc. name: Goulburn & District Art Society Inc, REFERENCE: SURNAME + INITIALS

Alternatively post a cheque to The Treasurer, GDAS, P.O. Box 71 Goulburn NSW 2580