

President's Report



It is indeed exhibition season. Last weekend, I was privileged to join the Half Dozen Group of Artists at their annual exhibition at the Richard Randall Gallery at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens. This was their 80th annual exhibition and the thought that their group has been around for 80 years has brought out a latent interest in the history of the group. Trevor Downes has been busy preparing a wonderful visual history of the group—looking back to the work of members from years past. And Heather Rae, a newish member, is using her skills to compile an oral history of the group.

Heather has a big job ahead of her. I asked Laura Ramsey (President HDG) to supply me with the names of some long serving members of the group. Val Waring has been a member of the HDG for 48 years. As you know, one of my hobby-horses is that it is important—not that you belong to a group—but what you do to make the group better. Val has that commitment—she took the group for life drawing 35 years. The group must be doing something right because it has fifteen members who have been members for more than 20 years. And that includes Louise Tonel who featured as Volunteer of the month in BVACConnex earlier this year. There are so many memories for Heather to record.

I hope you are all busy putting the final touches to the work you will enter into your group's annual members exhibition. I've managed to enter the Brookfield Show and the Sculptors Queensland exhibitions so far and have the EKKA, Ceramic Arts Queensland Members, Siliceous, and right at the end of the year, Western Suburbs Clayworkers exhibitions to come. My thoughts are with all the committees working hard to get the exhibitions organised—I have it easy as I am just entering.

A small BVAC sub-committee is working through the minutiae of our present operating system at the moment with the aim of Building a Better BVAC. BVAC was formed by Brisbane artists' groups for Brisbane's artists' groups. We are also investigating some interesting ways of making the Hub very much the centre of our operations and a art centre known and loved by the community. Hopefully, we will be in a position to announce these changes in August and we hope that all groups will appreciate the changes. BVAC was formed by a number of groups for the benefit of all groups who have joined our family. Like anything vital, it is a two way street. BVAC is here to help you, but for us to help you, you have to help us.

Please consider how you might be able to assist BVAC through your involvement with the committee. Remember, some positions on the committee are available as remote positions. Finally, through illness, both Peter and I missed this month's monthly meeting. Thank you to Wendy and Sandra Evans for stepping up to the plate. It was nice to see that we had a visitor at our monthly meeting

Judy

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The letter 'B'

If you haven't noticed, the Botanic Gardens at Mt Coot-tha are a hive of art activity. While Sculptors Queensland was ensconced at the Auditorium of the weekend of 12 and 13 June, the Botanical Artists Society Queensland was holding a small, but beautiful, exhibition in the Richard Randall Gallery.

This was an exhibition of small works—"paintings, prints, and presents—all inspired by the letter "B". You were asked to bask in the beauty of botanica in Brisbane.

This beautiful work by Jennifer Foster-Hamilton became the signature symbol of the exhibition. Created in 2020, look closely to find Boronia, Royal bluebell, Bleeding heart, Morning iris and Morning glory.

Floressence

The annual exhibition of the Botanical Artists Society Queensland, *Floressence* will be held from the 11th—16 of November in the Auditorium of the Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha.

Artwork and merchandise sales will be available at this exhibition.

Featured artwork by Jennifer Foster-Hamilton, Christmas Bells, 2020.



Notes from BVAC Meeting June 10

Date: June 10, 2021 9.30 am

Venue: The Hub

Attendees: Wendy Goode (Scattered Arts), Lyn Pearson (ATASDA), Joanna Faber (PAQ), Sandra Evans (APAT), Anna-Margot Collins (QEG), Marilyn George (QBG), Wendy Moore (Visitor for Art West/ Scattered Arts)

Apologies: Natalie Parish; Judy Hamilton, Peter Rayson

Minutes: Taken as read. Passed.

Correspondence: Nil

President's Report: We received a thank you via email from Lena for the Sympathy card on the death of her Dad. I received a negative response when I spoke to the President of the Brisbane Golf Club about advertising for a secretary in their Ladies Locker Room on the grounds that it sets a precedent and there are many groups represented at the club.

We have had another meeting of the Build a Better BVAC committee – and work progresses well as we try to sort out the future of BVAC. In the past, the Pop-Up Shop at Mt Coot-tha has been the focus for many groups and its success has brought new groups to BVAC. But BVAC is more than the Pop-Up. The Hub will become a focus of our future development. We got a lot of walk-in traffic at the Botanic Gardens, and we are going to have to build events that bring people to the Hub, but the rewards should be greater in the long run. BVAC is simply an extension of all our member groups – it is run by the groups for the betterment of conditions for the groups and if you are elected to the committee of BVAC, you need to work for BVAC.

“BVAC is here to help you, but for us to help you, you have to help us.” For this reason, it is probably better if a group's BVAC representative does not hold a management position (President, Secretary, or Treasurer) of their home group. It could be a good position for a Vice President or better still, just someone in your group who would like to make things better in Brisbane's art world. We are planning an event for representatives from each group in August, which will be an information session and a Q and A Session. The next meeting of the Building a Better BVAC committee will be at 9am, 29th June. Professional marketing man, Martin Lack is powering on with the marketing of the Pop-Up Shop. I think Wendy, Peter, Anna-Margot, and I have just about kept up.

Treasurer's Report: Because of Peter's illness, this has been held over till next month.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Pop-Up Shop: Papermakers have dropped out of the Pop-Up shop. CAQ have shown interest in having a stall. Bookbinders Guild are considering taking a table.

Wendy has set up the Weekend Notes advert should be out this week. Martin Lack has been a help with the advertising so far. Peter is handling the Facebook and Anna Margot is onto the Instagram but does need constant content from members.

Wendy has found out the SQUARE credit platform now allows for incorporated associations to use it. You just need to apply for an account and allow up to 4 weeks for approval.

Anna Margot to give Peter the table bookings to Peter so he can send out the invoices.

Wendy Moore asked about how we may liaise with the School P & C about our building and open weekends. This is something we will be doing when we start to plan our next open weekend.

Census: The Brisbane City Council Census has been held over to next meeting.

Bindery: Dates of use so far. The upstairs hall is still available for hire. If it is hired QBG will be given notice to not run the Bindery on that day. June 30, AM, July 14, 30 AM, Aug 4, 18 AM, Sept 5 PM, Sept 17 AM. Oct 3 PM, Oct 13 AM, Oct 30 PM.

Notice of Meetings for QBG: The Minutes and Agenda are currently sent to the Secretary of QBG at secretary@qbg.org.au

Other venues for Markets: Liz Pearson has had enquiries from some friends in the local Churches in the Sherwood, Graceville and Chelmer areas. Asking if it would be possible for BVAC to run an occasional

market in these areas. Around Christmas time was suggested. Liz will bring some more information about this to the next meeting.

Indigenous Acknowledgement: Liz was asked by her group (ATASDA) about having a sign made up to acknowledge our local traditional owners. She will find out who is our local group from the council and get the wording for a sign that we can put both upstairs and downstairs.

Building and Maintenance: Sandra E. met with an Electrician today about Air Conditioning quote. Also, to install a sensor light above the stairs for safety. Extra lights also to be installed downstairs. Once she has the quote, she will submit the paperwork to the council for approval.

Meeting Closed: 10.55am.

Next Meeting: 8 July, 9,30am.



Red Hot and Cool

An exhibition by the Queensland
Enamellers Guild
June 15th - 20th, 2021

Richard Randall Art Studio
Brisbane Botanical Gardens, Mt Coot-tha,
Tuesday - Saturday 9:30 am - 4:00 pm
Sunday 9:30 am - 3 pm
email queenslandenamellersguild@gmail.com
find us on facebook at-
Queensland Enamellers Guild



Members of
Brisbane Visual
Arts Community



Visit Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens

The Sculptors Queensland Mt Coot-tha indoor exhibition may have closed but the outdoor sculptures will be there for 3 months. The gardens are such a beautiful place to wander through. Lots of walks and things to see. In the Cactus garden is this magnificent sculpture by Ollie Hardt.

While delivering my sculptures for the SQ show last week, I met Rita Deshpande and some ladies from the Watercolour Society enjoying the gardens.



Brisbane Visual Arts Community

Invites you to our:

2021 ARTS & CRAFT

POP-UP SHOP

Friday 9 July 10 - 4

Saturday 10 July 9 - 4

**Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens
"The Auditorium"**

**100% Queensland Designed
100% Queensland Made**

bvac.org.au - bvac2015@gmail.com

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

Instagram: [brisbanevisualartscommunity](https://www.instagram.com/brisbanevisualartscommunity)



*Exhibition of
Hand painted
Oils on Porcelain*

May 29th – June 24th 2021

Opening 12.30pm Sunday

30th May

Royal Queensland Arts

Society Gold Coast Inc

25 Broadbeach Boulevard,

Broadbeach

Opening Hours

10 am-3 pm weekdays

9 am – 5 pm weekends



Featuring Framed and 3D pieces for sale

apatqld@gmail.com



Australasian Porcelain Art Teachers Qld



80 years of Exhibitions—The Half Dozen Group of Artists Celebrates

Founded in 1941 through the work of the indefatigable E. Lilian Pedersen, the Half Dozen Group recently celebrated their 80th exhibition at the Richard Randall Gallery at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens.



Brisbane's art world was long considered to be a backwater in *Australian art*. A place where nothing interesting ever happened. Until the 1950s, Queensland artists migrated to Sydney and Melbourne and built their careers there. Sydney Nolan and Charles Blackman worked with Brisbane's young artists in the 1940s but they were just passing through. In 1950, artists such as Grandma Moses and Winston Churchill caused a world wide surge in interest in creating art. The interesting point of this is that when you encourage many, you

may find a fantastic few among them. The painting on the left seems quite apropos of this idea. It's titled ***If You Can't Beat Them***—can you see why?

The Half Dozen Group continue to encourage many and their 2021 Annual Exhibition is a wonderful example. This year's exhibition provides wonderful visual impact from the moment you enter the gallery. Subject and style are the choice of the artist – except in the “Lambert Wall”, where artists are asked to work to a theme and within defined dimensions. This year's Lambert wall reflects the amount of “looking out” of windows that was done in 2020 because of the covid lockdowns. It is a wonderful way of honouring the memory of one of the great characters of Brisbane art – Dixie Lambert and is a great way to appreciate individuality of ideas.



In a nod to the very first Half Dozen Group of Artists' exhibition in 1941, where renowned Brisbane sculptor Len Shillam exhibited a sculpture of a horse, worked in Helidon sandstone and in the modernist style, at the 80th exhibition, Derek Johnston exhibited two sculptures in Helidon sandstone. Thanks to artists like Shillam paving the way, both Derek's sculptures sold.

Finally, as someone who likes writing and research, I would like to commend the work done by HDG newsletter editor Trevor Downes, who has been busy this year documenting the history of the group and sourcing images of works of many of the earlier HDG members. His research was made available at the exhibition. If there is anyone out there who can help with any images for the blank spaces, please contact Trevor. Also, Heather Rae is compiling an oral history of the group so if you have any memories of the group, please contact her. Congratulations to the Half Dozen Group of Artists and Many Happy Returns. <https://www.hdg-artists.com>



Brisbane Sculpture Festival 2021

The Auditorium at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens is home to Brisbane Sculpture Festival. The festival features both Indoor and Outdoor sculptures. The Indoor Exhibition has gone but you can enjoy trying to find the over 20 Outdoor Sculptures sited amongst some of the prettiest parts of the Gardens. These will remain on display for another month at least.

Unlike most community artists' groups, the Brisbane Sculpture Festival is a competition. The main award is the **Shillam Award** of \$4,000. This is open to all members and the winner is chosen across the Outdoor and Indoor competitions. Len and Kath Shillam were initiating members of the Society of Sculptors in 1969. On Len's death in 2005, a substantial sum was left to SQ to fund a prize in the annual exhibition in perpetuity. The 2021 winner is **Steve Bodrog** with his work **Wrath of Poseidon**. The sculpture is created from a single piece of highly polished aluminium. I have been waiting for Steve to win this prestigious award for a number of years as his work is always a skilled creation by a master craftsman.



Sirromet Wines offers a separate \$1,500 prize for an **Outdoor sculpture**. SQ has developed an important arrangement with Sirromet wines where sculptures are shown in the grounds of the winery throughout the year. This year's winner is **Frederick Beel** with his stainless steel sculpture—**The Seed We Need**. The **Indoor Sculpture Award** was won by **Melissa Carey** for her piece, **Spiralling Up**—created in welded steel.



The **Frank Lambert and Friends Memorial Award** offers a prize of \$700 for an indoor sculpture. Frank Lambert had no formal training in sculpture and yet he became one of the greatest influences on Queensland sculpture since the Shillams. In 1972, he became teacher of sculpture at the Queensland College of the Arts.



A new award was created this year to honour Life Member of Sculptors Queensland, **Ros Haydon**, and offers an award of \$500 for the sculptor who pushes the boundaries of a medium. Ros has worked tirelessly for Sculptors Queensland over the past ten years, including a stint as Exhibitions Coordinator. This is wonderful recognition to Ros's commitment to making the group successful. This year's winner is Peter Steller with his piece **Coral Sea Explorer**. This work was created in jacaranda wood—Peter rescues a lot of wood from trees that are cut down by Council. This piece is delicately coloured with stains—unusual in wood sculpture.



This exhibition has grown in stature over the past 10 years and the growth has largely been due to the meticulous organisation of the event. The judge for this year's exhibition was renowned gallery owner, **Philip Bacon**. Sculptors Queensland represents emerging to professional sculptors and through its **Artist in Residence** program provides encouragement for young artists to work outside their safe zone.

Wendy Sharpe Artist Talk and Workshop

Calling all Brisbane artists and art enthusiasts!



Some absolute treats in store for our local artists. Wendy Sharpe, one of Australia's most significant and awarded artists, is visiting Brisbane on July 10th for a special Artist Talk and Workshop

Presented by Brisbane Portrait Prize, Metro Arts and West Village, Wendy will:

- Speak about her amazing career as an artist
- Discuss her work as a finalist and winner of some illustrious art prizes (including the Archibald Prize, the Portia Geach Memorial Prize and the Sulman Prize!)
- Give us some rare insights into her experience of judging various prizes.

Following her talk, Wendy will be facilitating a workshop entitled '**Art Materials: An Introduction**' where she will discuss paint techniques and will demonstrate the use of various drawing materials.

You'll also get an insider's glimpse into Wendy's private sketchbooks to see how she designs paintings.



The Archibald is 100

In this year when Australia's most prestigious, and best known, art prize turns 100, there were a total of 938 entries with a mere 52 making the final cut for the finals. For the first time, gender parity entered the event with 26 women and 26 male artists being selected. Although female sitters usually outnumber men in any form of art, the Archibald sitters must come from some man or woman distinguished in Arts, Letters, Science or Politics. Interestingly, female sitters outnumber males.

Possibly it is no real surprise that the winner was a centenarian for a centenarian. The portrait by Peter Wegner of 100 year old artist Guy Warren was declared the winner. The exhibition will be on display at the Art Gallery of New South Wales from June 5 to September 26.

Finding the Archibald. As the Archibald celebrates its centenary with an ambitious exhibition, art lover and acclaimed actor Rachel Griffiths embarks on a cultural romp through our most coveted and controversial arts prize. Starts **Tuesday 15 June at 8.30pm on ABC TV + iview**.

COLOUR DESIGN

with Millie Simic



Sat 17 & Sun 18 July 2021
9.30am (for a 10 o'clock start) - 3.30pm



**Redland Yurara Art Studio & Gallery,
Pinklands Reserve, Cnr Dinwoodie Rd,
262 Cleveland-Redland Bay Rd,
THORNLANDS 4164**

This workshop is intended to show participants how to use the colour wheel to learn new ways of designing with colour. We will be using the landscape (or your choice of subject that you are comfortable with) as a vehicle for utilising different colour harmonies. A number of small paintings will be completed on the weekend using different colour combinations. These may include Monotone colours (within the same colour family), Complimentary (colours opposite the colour wheel), Split complimentary etc. Artists are sometimes afraid to paint the same subject more than once (as in a series), however if you are familiar with colour theory, this won't be a problem for you in the future.



COST: Members \$150 Non-members \$170

Tea and coffee provided **BYO** cup, plate, food etc due to COVID

Please contact: Danielle Bain 0417 239 911 07 3206 6185

daniellebain@ozemail.com.au for enrolment & payment



Printmaking class at Yurara



Colour Woodblock Printing Classes

Local Printmaker and Yurara Art Gallery member, Andrew Sewell, will be running Printmaking classes on Fridays from 3pm- 4.30pm at Redland Yurara Art Gallery & Studio, 262 Cleveland-Redland Bay Rd THORNLANDS. Classes will be run for both experienced artists and beginners. So if you are interested in learning some new techniques starting with Woodblock please register your interest through either e-mail, SMS or call.

Andrew Sewell
E andrewsewell1@gmail.com
P 0415913340

Price is \$35 per session for Yurara members and High School students (\$40 for non members)
All participants required to purchase their own Woodcut knives (RRP \$20 per set at Eckersleys Art Supplies) all other materials will be provided.

Painting Restoration and Conservation

While having lunch with some friends recently, a woman asked me was it possible to have her painting by Max Boyd repaired. So I decided to do a bit of research on the subject for those of us here in Brisbane

Art restoration is the repair or renovation of works that have already sustained damage with the attempt to restore a work to its original, undamaged appearance. Conservation, on the other hand, refers to the maintenance and preservation to safeguard against damage and deterioration.

There are many reasons as to why a painting might need to be repaired. In 2015, for example, a twelve-year-old boy lost his footing and accidentally punched a hole in **Flowers**, a \$1.5 million Paolo Porpora Baroque-style oil painting. **The Night Watch**, a famous work by Rembrandt has been intentionally vandalized three times. Other works, like Leonardo's **The Last Supper** (1546), were created in a type of paint that was ephemeral in nature, and climatic conditions have accelerated the decline of their condition. My friend's painting had struck a sharp edge when it fell from a wall.

I suppose that most often, whether or not you have the work restored will depend on how much you like the damaged work. On the other hand, the work of Max Boyd belongs to the output of Australia's greatest creative family—the Boyds. Max Boyd was a second cousin of the great Arthur Boyd and it would be the Boyd name attached to the work that gives it any value. Max Boyd's work has been offered at auction multiple times, with realized prices ranging from \$90 to \$500, depending on the size and medium of the artwork. The artist died in 1988.

Another friend had a damaged Victorian era framed mirror that she took along to be restored. The restoration is so good that it is impossible to tell from a quick look where the restoration is.

One of the main objectives of art restoration is to preserve the inherent value of a work of art. For the art collector, paintings with damage such as discoloration, dullness, yellowing, and other aesthetic imperfections are valued much less than those in good condition. Restoration is a huge part of value determination. If restored correctly, there is no loss in value.

RSM Art Conservation,
Art Restoration Service,
Bowen Hills
(07) 3257 7884

Blair Paintings Conservation
Art Restoration Service
0416 842 245

Artis Pura
314 Ipswich Rd, Annerley
<https://www.artispura.com.au/>

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Art West Community Gallery

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Scattered Arts

Wendy Goode

Papermakers Artists Qld

Joanna Faber

Watercolour Society. QLD

Julie Brims

LeatherCrafters AQ

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ATASDA

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