



randwick
art
society
inc.



Quarterly Newsletter # 45

Issue: June 2021

Photos Above from Left – Artworks from Monday Art Studio Group – N Sen & H Egan

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

March 2021

Much has occurred since our last Newsletter. Probably the most significant matters relate to our Annual Exhibition at Little Bay and our continued growth, interest and variety in our Monday morning studio time together.

Our Annual exhibition went very well – notwithstanding the Covid ups and downs raging around us. We came together, we exhibited, the judge made his call, we sold art and craft, the public visited in good numbers, we enjoyed music, we enjoyed a great venue. We are again very thankful for the support from Randwick City Council and sponsors such as the Bendigo Bank, Walsh's Pharmacy, the Coast Golf Club. We were also greatly supported by various local businesses who provided a range of prizes for our raffle.

Again, many thanks to the support and assistance from members. There was much to do in a short space of time. Your Committee worked hard to bring this together, but we could not have achieved success without the support and preparedness of members to plug in and assist across the board. A fuller overview of the Annual Exhibition is set out elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Our Monday Morning Studio has continued to grow in interest with members. This is largely because of some hard work by your Secretary, Heather Egan and Committee member Marie Widolf. Heather and Marie hatched and then implemented an ongoing program of activities. These include artist talks from members about their life, work

and their approach to art etc. Show and Tell sessions where a member can outline where they are at, what they are doing, what issues they have encountered etc, workshop sessions using a variety of different media – guaranteed to mess with your head, and studio time to progress current work. All up, we find we have really enjoyed our few hours together. Members are encouraged to keep an eye out for emails re the program and plug in as much as possible – for your own well being.

Rick Bardsley-Smith
President



Monday Studio Time

We continue to use The Coast Centre at Little Bay for Studio time. We meet on Mondays from 10am till noon.

As noted in the President's Report, the attendance and interest in this time has continued to grow. The program devised means there is something for everyone in any given month. Its both enjoyable and challenging and a great time to catch up with members.



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RAS Calendar June – August 2021

- **Every Monday** : RAS member Studio time is currently held in the Art Room at Coast Centre: Curie Ave, Little Bay NSW 2036 10am to 12noon.
- **Monday 12th July** : Bendigo Bank exhibition due date for entries
- **20th July – 31st August**: Bendigo Bank Exhibition Dates
- **Sept 2021** : Prince of Whales Sydney Children's Hospital Exhibition – dates to be confirmed but likely to be Sept
- **Saturday 9th October** : Workshop with Dee Jackson



Photo Above: R Bardsley-Smith & M Widolf
Monday Studio Group

RAS 11th Annual Art, Craft and Photography Exhibition

Our Annual Exhibition occurred at The Prince Henry Centre (PHC) on Fri 30th April, Sat 1st May, Sun 2nd May and was a great success. Some 196 art and photography works submitted 58 by members were displayed and a total of 32 were sold. Eight different craft makers sold their wares.

Our judge was David Pavich and the exhibition had 8 different prize categories with a Winner and a Highly Commended in each category.



Photo Above:
A Anderson "Sherbet Shores" Best in Show

AWARD WINNERS:

Best in Show: Aileen Anderson.
Water Medium: Winner, Lydia Chan
H/C, Rick Bardsley-Smith
Oil/Acrylic: Winner, Hannah Sunilo
H/C, Alana Best.
Drawing/Mixed Media:
Winner, Heather Egan
H/C, Rosita Simmons.
Abstract: Winner, Kurt Koepl
H/C, Elena Hoffman.
Malabar Headland:
Winner, Anne Cahill
H/C, Kurt Koepl.
Photography: Winner, Sandi Beynon
H/C, Robyn Johnson
Miniature: Winner, Heidi Hereth
H/C, Pat Reid

This year we also had musical performances each day. This started with John Kapodistrias classical guitar as a prelude to our official opening on Friday night, The Sitch (guitar and keyboard) with easygoing music on Sat morning, The Rustys Players, classical stringed instruments and piano performed by both young and old on Sat arvo and the well known Uke East Band on Sunday. Both visitors and members all seemed to enjoy the flavour this music provided over the 3 days.

By all reports our Opening Night had a capacity crowd. We were well served by the presence of Dr Marjorie O'Neill, MP Member for Coogee, Matt Thistlethwaite, MP Member for Kingsford Smith as well as a group of Randwick City Councillors. Our Patron Councillor Kathy Neilson officially opened the Exhibition.

Again, many thanks to the RAS Committee for a lot of hard work and to members generally for their support in bringing together and running the Exhibition.



Photo Above: RAS Annual Exhibition Opening Night

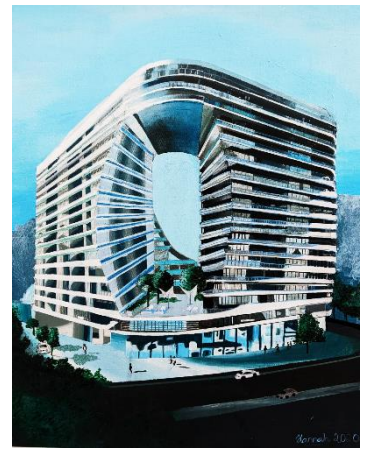


Photo Above: H Sunito "Infinity by Crown Group" Winner Oil/Acrylic

Committee Work

Members will recall that the position of Treasurer was not filled at the February AGM. We have taken steps to see if we can fill this position. We have been looking both within RAS and outside the Association. We hope to resolve this soon.

Members should also be advised that to help in a temporary capacity – and especially with the Annual Exhibition - Robyn Langford-Brown took on the role. She did this at a time which did not suit her as she had a range of significant competing issues. We are very thankful to Robyn for her hard work and efforts.

Until we can find a preferred Treasurer, Rick Bardsley-Smith has taken on the role with assistance from others (Heather Egan). Members inquiring about any finance aspects of the Association should direct their inquiries to Rick or Heather.

Blast from the Past!

Have you been an RAS member for a few years ? Well, how's your memory ? Here's a quick test.....who's work is the Brolga painting you see in the Newsletter and when was it undertaken. For those who have been a member for around 9 years you may recall that the 2012 RAS Annual Exhibition was featured in a two page spread of The Australian Artist magazine (no longer published). This painting was one of those displayed. It's by Betty Stone and is titled "The dancing Brolga".



Photo Above: "The Dancing Brolga"

Members Exhibitions

Marie Widolf's new solo Exhibition is on at Waverley Library between 4 August and 13 September. Stay tuned for details of Heidi Hereth's Exhibition at the Library which will follow Marie's.



Plein Air Outings – NSW Governor's Gardens

Members will be aware that Plein Air outings were organised by CASS in the NSW Governor's Gardens in April, May and June. These were successful. Some RAS members were able to attend some of these, however the latter two dates happened to clash with our Annual Exhibition and our recent Workshop week end. Quite a number of members of other art societies were able to attend. We thank the Governor's Office for this initiative. With any luck, more of these will occur in the future.

Workshops

We were able to conduct a successful full day Watercolour Workshop on Sat 5th June. We were encouraged as the premises, a Catholic Church Hall on Malabar Rd, proved to be an excellent venue. The possibility of using this Hall came about through the suggestion and assistance of one of our members, Josephine Licciardello, whom we thank. The venue has ample room to spread out, a northern aspect with good natural light, easy ample parking and pleasant adjoining spaces. Our workshop presenter was our own Niki Koepl who had 10 attendees between 10am and 4pm. From all reports, the workshop was enjoyable, beneficial to all and a successful time together. Our next Workshop is set down for Sat 9th Oct at the same venue. Our Presenter will be Dee Jackson who will be exploring watercolours. Registration is made online by accessing our website and payment is made through Paypal. Further information will be available closer to date of workshop.



CASS Activities

CASS activities which will occur in the coming months are Art in the Mountains, Art at the Tops and Art Direct. Art in the Mountains is an initiative which invites Art of Sydney award recipients (from Art of Sydney Exhibition 2020-2021) to display some works at "Gallery One88" in Katoomba in July/August. Hanging space is limited and participants must also be prepared to pay \$200 towards securing that space. The Exhibition opens on 27th July and runs to 15th August. Members who may be holidaying in the Mountains through that time might like to attend the Exhibition. The Gallery is located at 188 Katoomba St., Katoomba.

(<https://www.galleryone88finearts.com/about>)

Art at the Tops is a Workshop style event held at The Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops on Sat 27th, Sun 28th and Mon 29th November 2021. Booking Forms and Information can be found at the CASS web site: <https://combinedartsocieties.com/art-at-the-top/>

Various artists have been organized to undertake presentations, workshops and tutor over the three days. They include David Chen, Herman Pekel, Catherine Hamilton, Tricia Reust, Jacky Pearson, Chan Dissanayake, John Haycraft, Guy Troughton, Chris Seale, Julie Simmons, Tracey Creighton, John Wilson, John Rice and Tricia Taylor. Art Direct is a CASS initiative aimed at increasing direct access between the public and artists in order to reduce the costs of displaying art and also the purchase price. Various strategies have been used to date to address this. For 2021 CASS is considering offering participating artists an opportunity to display works online via a dedicated Sale web site. Marketing strategies would then aim to draw the public to the web site to achieve sales. The details of the initiative are still being resolved and will be brought forward when available.

Members News

MONDAY STUDIO ARTIST'S TALKS

In 2021, Randwick Art Society has introduced Monday Studio Artist's Talks, inviting members to talk about their art practice. Our first speaker on 10th May needed no introduction, being our own President in 2021, and our CASS Delegate, Rick Bardsley-Smith. Rick has had a very successful art career as a watercolour-artist, and is the recipient of many awards. In his earlier days he trained as a town planner and architect, illustrated brochures and bookcovers, but developed a love for the challenge of watercolour painting. Rick told how he spends hours, days, just thinking and drawing in the planning of his compositions, before painting, and even using a monitor to view his image from. His approach to painting is like that of an investigator: seeking to to tell truth about his varied subject matters, as he explained in his chosen featured works he discussed: a green corrugated-iron wall ("Green Facade"), an enormous and detailed brick wall (from the Rachel Foster hospital), and his "Old House" which was awarded 1st Prize in the watercolour section of the Sydney Easter Show.

Thank you Rick for a very interesting and entertaining morning!



Photo Above K Koepl Artist Talk Monday Studio Group Little Bay

It was an absolute treat to hear multi-award winning watercolour artist Kurt Koepl speak about his art practice today at the Coast Centre at Little Bay! Randwick Art Society members and visitors braved the cold temperatures to hear from Kurt and his wife Lynn Koepl talk about his fascinating life and art practice. From initially training to be a Photoengraver and running his own graphics design company; to painting in oils, illustrating using pencils, an airbrush, and eventually finding watercolour to be his preferred medium and abstract expressionism his style. He told how his current non-figurative work evokes emotions and encourage viewers to find their own interpretation in his works. Kurt has exhibited extensively in both solo and group exhibitions, and his work is found in many collections. Thank you Kurt and Lynn for a fascinating talk that is sure to have inspired us all!

The on again, off again Australian leg of the Australian Watercolour Institute's (AWI) Taiwan/Australia Exhibition is set down to occur at Juniper Hall, Paddington from 17th July to 8th August. RAS members may like to visit the exhibition to see works from both Australia and Taiwan. As an AWI member Rick Bardsley-Smith will have a work on display.

Our Graeme Bogan continues to get out there and come up with the results. Yet again he has photography in the July edition of the The Beast Magazine 2021. Well done Graeme.



Subject Pecking order **Location** Tamarama
Photographer Graeme Bogan

Bendigo Bank Exhibitions

As we reported in our last few Newsletters, late last year an opportunity arose to assist the Clovelly Bendigo Bank install a hanging system at the Bank on Clovelly Road for art work. This occurred as planned and soon after the Bank asked the RAS if we could organize some works to hang for the Christmas New Year period. The art works would be for sale. We completed that exhibition of around 16 works and then followed it up with another exhibition in March/April of about 20 works. At least 3 of the artworks displayed were sold. Monies raised from commissions and/or entry fees are to be forwarded to a charity of the Bank's choice at the end of the year. Since our March/April display the bank has been used for displays by 2 other local art groups and artists. The Bank has invited RAS to mount a new display to run from late July 20th to 31st August. Members are invited to participate and the theme is 'Winter Time'. Emails outlining this process have been forwarded to members. The RAS congratulates the Bank on this initiative which is consistent with its planned program of support in our local community.



Photo Above R Bardsley-Smith Artist Talk Monday Studio Group Little Bay