

MAYDAY HILLS ART SOCIETY

The Mayday Hills Art Society is a non-profit organisation for the benefit of artists in the region. Its objectives are to foster all branches of the visual arts and to provide innovative activities, networking and other opportunities for artists to advance their talents and for all those interested in art.

NEWSLETTER

No 3. November 2018

Kurrajong Way, Mayday Hills Village. Beechworth 3747

Our second term 2018 has once again been full of some exciting events. Five of the Society's artists took the opportunity to display their work on the Art Wall at the Beechworth Library for October. This was wonderful public exposure for the Society.

Our Happy Hours have been popular; not only for the shared beverages and sandwiches and snacks but because on each of these events we have enjoyed fabulous Art Talks from guest artists from around the region as well as poetry and play readings.

In August **Rita Lazaurkus** spoke about her very productive art career as well as her life shared between Beechworth and Morocco where she organises art tours. Rita conducted a successful one-day observational drawing workshop at MDHAS. More information about Rita and her Amazigh Cultural Tours at the following websites: www.ritalazauskas.com and www.culturaltoursmorocco.com.

Local artist **Catherine Stewart** is inspired by regional, rustic landscapes, structures, native birds, flora and skies. Her work is sought after as it is fascinating, contemporary and innovative and highly colourful. Catherine's talk in September was beautiful and interesting. See Catherine's wonderful work at www.artshed41.com.au.

In October **Alan Phillips** provided us all with some extremely useful tips on preparing for an exhibition and in selling, exhibiting and marketing your work. Alan has held successful exhibitions in many locations including, most recently, Beechworth and central Australia. www.alanphillipsart.com. We will do our very best to bring you more fabulous Art Talks during 2019!

The workshop '**Sketching Historic Beechworth**' with **Leonie Norton** was held on the first weekend of October. It attracted a capacity number of enthusiastic interstate and local students who enjoyed the Spring sunshine and our historic buildings. More workshops are planned for 2019.





In September we had a happy evening when we welcomed 20 young members of the **Beechworth Scout Group**, their leaders and parents to the Society. All enjoyed an evening discovering some of the secrets of botanical art. They left with a number of lovely drawings ready for framing.

The **Victorian Supper Concert** held on Friday 14 September was a grand event in celebration of the return of the Beechworth Historic Pipe Organ to the Town Hall; thanks to the generosity of the Beechworth community and the Copland Foundation. The Organ was at the centre of music and cultural entertainment from 1886 to 1906.

We are delighted to announce that the **Beechworth Organ Society** is now a member of the Art Society. MDHAS is now taking on the wonderful task of organising concerts featuring the historic pipe organ and our local talent. See below for our next event!



Coming events

Please make a note in your diaries of the following dates:

Opening of the 'Bimblebox Nature Refuge' exhibition' and Christmas drinks

Friday 7 December. 6.00pm

Curator and passionate advocate for the Bimblebox Nature Refuge, Maureen Cooper, said recently that this exhibition 'is a visual journey through the landscape of an 8,000ha gazetted Nature Refuge in the Desert Uplands Bioregion of Central West Queensland in the South Galilee Basin'. The owners of the property were informed in 2008 that Waratah Coal intended to turn the area into a coal mine. This exhibition is a showcase of this fascinating and dwindling natural environment.

We will take the opportunity of this opening to celebrate the first anniversary of the Mayday Hills Art Society and enjoy some Christmas cheer with members and guests. RSVP bibart@bigpond.com by 1/12/18.

RE-ENACTMENT CONCERT. This is the centenary of a welcome home concert given in the Town Hall on 14th December 1918.

Friday 14 December. 7.30pm drinks and nibbles. 8.00pm concert

Concert goers are once again invited to dress according to the fashion of the times (1918) to give some fun and authenticity to the event! Songs and music from WW1 will be a feature with Dame Nellie Melba returning to grace us with 'yet' another farewell performance of *Home Sweet Home* and other great and memorable songs. Other local talent is already rehearsing and perfecting their performances in order to bring you another thoroughly entertaining show. Don't miss out. \$25/ \$20 concession. Tickets at door. RSVP essential: 5728 2817 or wendysue99@bigpond.com by 10/12/18.

Some exciting news...

The top floor

The Art Society is moving onwards and upwards! We were offered the top floor of our building so how could we resist. We have now taken over the area and have been painting, cleaning and repairing this brilliant space. This now gives us fantastic opportunities to develop the performing arts in Beechworth with the inclusion of a theatre that can seat over 100 people; 7 more art studios; a library dedicated to music, theatre and the arts; and a room for the Mayday Hills Art Society Archive where a growing collection of information about the history of the asylum, its workers and occupants is gathering.

Before we could even get the area ready for resident artists the studio spaces have been snapped up. However, **there is still one shared space available for rent**. Contact Christine 0412 126 219 or bibart@bigpond.com if you wish to view the space.

Our first event upstairs...

Mountaingrass

9 to 11 November 2018

The first use of the top floor will be by the Australasian Bluegrass and Old Time Music Association (ABOTMA) on **10 and 11 November, 2018**.

We are delighted to welcome the Festival to the Art Society and look forward to a wonderful weekend of fabulous musicians, concerts, workshops and jamming sessions. ABOTMA was formed in 2013 to support the teaching, performance and promotion of bluegrass and old time music in Australia and New Zealand. Everyone who enjoys bluegrass and old time music is very welcome to join in, improve their playing skills or simply enjoy the concert.

For program and further information see www.mountaingrass.com.au.

Music and life drawing at the Spring Sing

Each Sunday 10.00am to 11.30am until end of November

Leanne Murphy is running a singing/music program on Sunday mornings at the Beechworth Senior Citizen's Centre. Members have been invited by Leanne to come along and sketch or paint while the group sings. Rather like Toulouse-Lautrec, don't you think? ... If you are interested you can contact Leanne by phoning/texting to 0448 566 777.

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Mayday Hills Art Society Committee

President /Secretary -- Christine Cansfield-Smith

Vice President/Newsletter editor -- Wendy Stephens

Treasurer – Bob Richards

Archivist /Committee member -- David Lawrence

Archivist/ Committee member -- Jenni Munday

If you have any arts news please send to Wendy for inclusion into our newsletters.
Thank you in Art and Theatre from Wendy! Wendysue99@bigpond.com