



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.

No 3 Kurrajong Way Mayday Hills Village Beechworth 3747

JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER

The President sums up our first year:

I am delighted to be writing a letter to be included in this newsletter. This month we have been resident in our space at Mayday Hills for one year. While we did not officially launch the Society until 22nd November we were fully occupied in the first months cleaning, renovating and painting our space. With each extra piece of furniture, every new art book, painting or textile we are hopefully creating a comfortable home base for all our members.

We held a Management Committee meeting last weekend. At this meeting we discussed one of our major challenges - to keep the place warm during the winter months. Please know that this is definitely on the agenda. Our delay is to find the most efficient, affordable and effective heating for the large space that is our headquarters. We promise to solve this before the end of winter.

From a financial point of view we are a viable and growing organisation, although we are actively on the look out for suitable grants to assist with necessary equipment and future exhibitions. Thank you to our members and resident artists as our membership is currently at 92 people.

We had a successful Term 1 of workshops and other activities. Term 2 is being finalised and accompanies this newsletter. Coming up are several art workshops including 'Sketching historic Beechworth' with Leonie Norton in early October. This class is already half filled with interstate people wanting both a wonderful workshop as well as a holiday in Beechworth! We do, however, have some sad news as we may not get to meet Prue Acton and Merv Moriarty this year with Merv to have major surgery. Fingers crossed that we manage another weekend for a class and art talk from them in 2019.

Our art talks have proved to be popular so we have some interesting and exciting topics lined up for you over the next few months. In addition, Catherine Hamilton, who ran a very informative and inspiring weekend class in acrylics in April, is to return for a time as an artist in residence during Summer. This is quite a coup for our Society. We hope her visit coincides with the planned exhibition 'Up top at the asylum'.

In this newsletter you will see information about an excursion to the SCRAP exhibition being held in Swanpool on Tuesday 14th August. We hope you can join the group planning to have a day out to see artistic creations using recycled, salvaged or repurposed materials.

We have also been considering a regular public opening of the Art Society each Saturday. This has come about because of the number of people wandering around Mayday Hills during the weekends. We are often asked if we are open to the public and so we believe there could be some benefit to having a permanent, but changing, exhibition with art and merchandise for sale. To keep this going we need your help and so will be sending around an email with a roster for the rest of the year, commencing 6th October. An hour or two or half a day is all that will be required from each of us to keep this going.

Regular activities are the art project get together on the 3rd Saturday of each month and our happy hours which are wonderful opportunities to meet and to chat over a drink. These activities are also a chance to gather your input and feedback. Speaking of which, we are organising a short survey that will soon be sent around electronically to our members. Please respond, as we want our Society to work for you and to become a dynamic organisation integral to the art and culture of our community.

All the best always.
Christine

The list of Term 2 workshops is enclosed and we are looking forward to a great spring and summer of painting and drawing and getting work ready for our Summer Exhibition.

EXHIBITION

January 14th – 24th January 2019

‘Up top at the asylum’

An exhibition of members’ recent art work that coincides with the summer holidays and ‘Opera in the Alps’. We will be in touch with details. Opening night 10th January.

EXCURSION

Tuesday 14th August

We have planned an excursion to Swanpool Creative Recycled Art (SCRAP) The exhibition to take the place of the Swanpool ‘Bald Archy’s’ and promises to be a very creative and quirky exhibition.



Bookings required for entry and a delicious lunch at the venue. Contact Wendy email: wendysue99@bigpond.com.

LIFE DRAWING (free get together)

Sunday 19th August

Complimentary life drawing session from 2-4pm. One of our models Lhysa will be in Beechworth for the weekend and has a spare couple hours. She has kindly offered to model for anyone interested. All are welcome. Gold coin donation. BYO materials.

Contact Wendy 0402 288 207.



Members of Ku-ring-gai Art Society spent a week painting in and around Albury and the Northeast. They visited the Art Society where we shared morning tea with them.

Photo: From left: Noeline Millar, Cheryl Bruce, Janey Dunn, Baith Aynsley-Lewis, Barb Lowery, Christine Cansfield-Smith, Alta Sheridan, Gayne Kirkhouse, Charmaine Phillips and Wendy Taylor.



Pushing the Boundaries

The Art Society held a very successful workshop in late April with artist and visiting tutor Catherine Hamilton.

Photo: Janey Dunn, Judi Moncur, Jo Jones and Catherine Hamilton sharing their paintings during the weekend.



Art talk

We enjoyed a very informative and delightful evening with printmaker and artist Vida Pearson with over 20 members at the event.

Photo: Maureen O'Flaherty, Jacqui Pierce and Karen Blaurock with Vida Pearson.

News from Mayday Hills Art Society Archive research team

Dr Jenni Munday from Charles Sturt University has been involved in research about Mayday Hills for several years. She will be seeking to re-visit those people she has already interviewed, plus conduct new interviews with others who have memories of Mayday Hills when it was a working mental hospital. The interviews will be used as the basis for an exhibition at Albury Library/Museum and at the Art Society in 2019. You can read about the beginning of the research project here:

<http://www.fusion-journal.com/issue/007-fusion-mask-performance-performativity-and-communication/up-top-a-sense-of-place-for-living-and-lost-memories/>

For further information or to contact Jenni by email: jmunday@csu.edu.au

A great big thank you

Our sincere thanks to the intrepid **Peter Leppert** for the incredible amount of repairs, painting, ceiling fixing and other work he does for us in his own time. He is the builder of display boards, the creator of new furniture as well as the repairer of old furniture. He built the podium for our life drawing models and is continually moving and fixing things at the Art Society. Without his help these rooms would not look as good as they do!

Congratulations and thank you to Albury writer Joanna Baker who included MDHAS in her **'Artists and Makers'** article about the society. It talked about the beginning of MDHAS, our aims and ongoing features about our artists. <https://riparianalbury.com> (Around the river and beneath the surface.) Joanna has rereleased her **first novel 'Devastation Road'** set in and around Yackandandah. It is to be a part of a trilogy of novels set in the northeast. We look forward to reading it and wish her great success as a published writer.

We are delighted to announce a new picture framing studio for Beechworth

**7 Mellish Street
Phone/SMS 0448 566 777
E: leannemurphy@bigpond.com
www.facebook.com/leannemurphyartandframing**

Picture framing by appointment. Leanne caters to suit most budgets- from decorator through to conservation framing and bespoke design. Select from a wide range of framing materials and glazing options. Artist discounts available for exhibition framing and multiple orders.

Best well wishes to our member Barb Lowery for her return to good health. Barb is currently undergoing treatment for cancer. We look forward to seeing her back here cooking up delicious treats for our cast and crew of artists and getting on with her own painting.

Murray Arts is calling out to ALL artists to enter BILLET DOUX 2018

Murray Arts presents Billet Doux; an open entry contemporary, non-acquisitive, art prize and exhibition of small scale artworks. Murray Arts is putting out the call to ALL artists in our region to be involved in this fabulous art prize and exhibition which will take place at the **Library/Museum Albury 29 Sept to 2 December**.

Billet Doux translates to "*sweet note*". Billet Doux aims to showcase the work of local artists at all stages of their career in miniature form! All works submitted to Billet Doux will be 8 x 10 inches EXACTLY and will be available to purchase during the exhibition (which also happens to align with, ahem, certain "gift-giving occasions"). As an added bonus, up to 4 works will win a cash prize of \$250, and then there's the glory of the People's Choice Award. So, to all artists who reside in the Murray Arts footprint (Albury City, City of Wodonga, Federation Council, Greater Hume Council, Indigo Shire and Towong Shire) Murray Arts urges you to join them in celebrating the awe-inspiring diversity of our regions' dynamic artistic visual arts community!

Submissions are accepted via the entry form.

Entry form download:

https://www.murrayarts.org.au/images/PDFs/billetDoux_EntryForm_2018.pdf

Download, fill it in and email it back to us at info@murrayarts.org.au

Each artists can enter up to four (4) artworks. Each entry attracts an entry fee of \$10.

Terms & Conditions download:

https://www.murrayarts.org.au/images/PDFs/billetDoux_TermsAndConditions_2018.pdf

For more information or assistance with your entry, call the Murray Arts team (02) 6021 5034

Comments, further information, bookings MDHAS:

Christine Cansfield-Smith E: bibart@bigpond.com M: 0412 126 219

Wendy Stephens E: wendysue99@bigpond.com M: 0402 288 207
