



## Contact

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## Session Times

**Open Monday to Friday  
and weekends via request!**

If closed for any reason please  
call one of the contacts listed  
above. New hours to be advised.

*W.A.S inc.*

## Upcoming events

**3 Dec 2024: 5:30 pm:**

Committee Meeting

**Thursdays, 14, 21, 28, Nov**

**& 5 Dec - Acrylic Painting**

with Leonie. 5:30 pm - 8:00

pm

**7 Dec 2024, from 5pm -**

Christmas Party

# Exhibition Wrap Up

Diamond Birthday, 53rd exhibition:

31 October - 5 November 2024

Our recent art exhibition was a resounding success, featuring an impressive array of 73 exhibits that showcased the incredible talent within our community. The event highlighted the creative prowess of our members, who contributed 50 stunning pieces, while also embracing the broader artistic community with 23 additional exhibits from local artists.

The exhibition drew art enthusiasts from all corners, creating a vibrant atmosphere of appreciation and inspiration. Visitors were treated to a diverse collection of works, ranging from traditional oil paintings to innovative mixed media pieces.

The highlight of the event was the announcement of the Most Popular Painting award, which went to the talented Margo Zautsen for her captivating pastel pencil triptych titled "Blue Gum Blossoms." Zautsen's masterful use of colour and technique in capturing the essence of these iconic Australian flowers resonated deeply with attendees, earning her well-deserved recognition.

Here's a summary of the other award winners:

- Best Oil Painting: Mary Ellis for "Peace"
- Best Pastel: Mary Ellis for "Broken River"
- Best Watercolour: Peter Burton for his painting of Silver Creek
- Best Acrylic: Ronda Teakel for "Rough Country"
- Best Other Media: Annette Lawson for "Room with a View"
- Best Photograph: Michelle Bright for "Waves"
- Encouragement Awards:  
Helen Gibson for "The Spaniel" and  
Robyn White for "Pathway Above Lady Bath Falls"

This successful exhibition not only celebrated the artistic achievements of our members but also strengthened the bonds within our local art community. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all participants, visitors, and volunteers who made this event possible. We look forward to continuing to nurture and showcase the wealth of artistic talent in our area through future exhibitions and events.

**Acrylic Painting Class:** Is currently in progress and fully booked without the need to advertise outside of our membership base. It was moved to Thursday night to accommodate members' busy schedules in the leadup to Christmas.

We're hoping to continue to have Leonie run classes next year on an ongoing basis.

**Life Drawing:** Wendy Stephens' life drawing group: Unfortunately, Wendy cannot continue with the group. We are looking to continue next year, alternating between life drawing and having life portrait sessions.

What is earth without  
art in it?

'Eh'

## Art Events

### Art Gallery on Ovens

21 Nov - 2 Dec 2024: In Sync, A Retrospective Exhibition by Joan Mullarvey and Sian Lim

5 - 23 Dec 2024: Resident Artists Group Exhibition

### Wangaratta Art Gallery

29 August - 4 December 2024: Being present by Victoria Cooper and Doug Spowart

9 Nov - 22 Dec 2024 - Material Implications by Carole Wilson and Tim Craker

16 Nov 2023 - 16 Feb 2025: Counterparts: Expanded Textile Practices by Hannah Gartside and Britt Salt

### Bright Art Gallery & Cultural Centre:

30 Nov 2024 - 27 Jan 2025: Summer Exhibition

### Benalla Art Gallery

18 October- 8 Dec 2024: Visions - Photographing Benalla and Beyond

8 Nov 2024 - 26 Jan 2025: Juan Ford - A Survey

14 Jun 2024 - 2025: Nocturne Benalla Art Gallery Collection

### Yarrowonga Mulwala Artists Association inc.

Gallery is open 10-4pm Wed - Sun and most public holidays

Artist 101:

#5


BAD ART happens..

It's just evidence of a frustrating but glorious waste of time.

From the series 'Artists 101'

By Laura Swink

## Christmas Party - 7 Dec 2024

 Calling All Artists! It's Time to Paint the Town Red (and Green)!

Get ready to swap your paintbrushes for party hats and your easels for eggnog! The most colourful event of the year is just around the corner!


 What: The Art Society's Spectacular Christmas Party


 When: December 7th, starting at 5pm

 Where: The Studio

Bring your creative spirit and let's make this party a masterpiece!

 BYOB: Bring Your Beverages (perhaps a palette-cleansing Pinot or a bold Bordeaux?)

 Potluck Extravaganza: Please bring a plate to share. Let's create a feast as diverse as our artistic styles!

 Important: To avoid a still life of ten plum puddings, please inform our culinary curator, Margo, about your planned nibbles. Let's compose a balanced buffet worthy of a Dutch Master's painting! Don't miss this chance to celebrate the year's achievements, mingle with fellow artists, and create merry memories!

RSVP by 3 Dec 2024 and let Margo know your culinary creation

**New Members:** We're delighted to welcome Alison to our Art Society! We look forward to seeing her creative contributions and getting to know her at our upcoming events. Please join us in making Alison feel at home in our artistic community.

### Attention Facebook Users (especially new members):

Please be aware that our official Facebook page and website are the only reliable sources for updates about the Wangaratta Artists Society Inc. You can access our Facebook page through our website [www.wangartists.org.au](http://www.wangartists.org.au). For verification, look for the logo that matches our newsletter.

### A Message of Condolence

It is with deep sadness that we inform our members of the recent passing of the husbands of our dear friends and fellow artists, Sandy Buchan and Anne Arnoldussen. Our Art Society extends its heartfelt condolences to Sandy and Anne during this difficult time. Their husbands were well-known and respected members of our community, and their loss will be felt by many. We ask all members to keep Sandy and Anne in their thoughts and to offer support in the coming weeks. The strength of our artistic community shines brightest in times of need, and we encourage everyone to reach out with kindness and compassion. Sandy and Anne, please know that your Art Society family stands with you, ready to offer any assistance you may need.

## Gift of Communication:

David and Robyn attended a workshop along with other community not-for-profit groups. The following was discussed with our group moderator. We have outlined several initiatives aimed at enhancing member engagement, attracting new committee members, and promoting awareness of our Society.

**Member Recognition:** Bringing back 'Member of the Month' with a member's artwork featured at the studio but expanding to include: Facebook, the webpage and an article on the featured artist in the Wangaratta Chronicle, highlighting their contributions and inspiring others to join.

**Recruitment:** When recruiting for our committee, it's important to identify skill gaps—such as tech expertise and reach out to individuals who can support our mission, regardless of whether they are artists.

**Enhancing Our Brand:** Consistency in our branding is essential. Our logo was universally praised by group moderators and other community groups. As such, at the last committee meeting, we unanimously voted to continue to use the new logo, ensuring all communications reflect this change. A thorough review of our existing materials will help maintain uniformity in messaging. Additionally, we will create a concise Vision or Mission Statement that encapsulates our purpose and guides our decision-making.

**Engagement & Communication:** To build stronger connections, we recommend actively participating in relevant online groups and fostering relationships with local art educators. This not only enriches our outreach but also encourages collaboration with students, offering them opportunities to engage with the Society.

By implementing these initiatives, we aim to create a more vibrant and inclusive arts community in our region.

## *I am an artist*

I am a creator of ideas, swimming in a sea of imagination

A Magician of sorts, turning thoughts of wonderment into pieces of originality

Each creation showcases my own personal journey

My worries my dreams and ambitions, everything I love and everything I fear!

All that I was yesterday and all that I'll be tomorrow is neatly contained in my glorious creations.

When you glance at my work, you are catching a glimpse of my soul, for part of me is in each creation

I march to my own beat and wildly dance to my own rhythm

Passion runs through my veins as emotions are fuel for my craft.

Certain pieces I protect and keep to myself while others I'll share with the world.

I am a creative beacon shining my light brightly for all the universe to see

I am all these things and more rolled into one amazingly talented, unique **ARTIST**

## *Housekeeping*

**Oil Painters: Please do not tip turps down the sink! Instead, bring them in a sealable container and take them home!**

**Painters, please clean the sink after washing your brushes!**

**All Members: If you are the last to leave, turn off and unplug all electrics, including the heaters or air conditioner, lock both doors, and turn the lights off.**

**Please take your rubbish home!**

**All feedback, good or bad should be directed to the President, David Mortimer, via email: [president@wangartists.org.au](mailto:president@wangartists.org.au)**