



Somerset Art Society Inc

Supporting the arts and artists in the Somerset Region SE Qld

Newsletter June 2023

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President's Ponderings

from Shirley Gregor

Hello everyone,

Art life in Somerset and surrounds seems to be getting busier and busier. The Hampton Festival was on the weekend of 20 May and a number of SASI artists contributed, with some success in sales. Linda Maine and Gai Edwards reported that the Marburg Show was very successful, with 137 art entries. Congratulations to Gai, Marita Reynolds and Stephen George for winning prizes. A team of SASI members are currently organizing the Visual Arts section at the Esk Show and the number of entries is up this year. Some excellent work is on display.



We are busy preparing for the Esk Garden Fair on 17 June and the call for expressions-of-interest brought in a good number and range of potential entries for the SASI stalls, with interesting ideas for the 3D garden art section, something of a new direction for us.

Our SASI General meeting was held on 19 May and we had a larger than usual turnout, which is much appreciated for the discussion it promoted. Items that will be considered further at the AGM in August include our budget for next year and consideration of whether membership fees need to go up a bit. Seems fees have not changed since 2009 when SASI began. Following the meeting, Somerset's Deputy Mayor Helen Brieschke and Councillor Kylee Isidro spoke with those present about art-related activities in Somerset. Thank you to them for taking the time to involve us in discussions.

I attended the opening of the "Things I Want to Say" exhibition at The Condensery on 6 May and it was a lively event with good attendance. A number of the young artists exhibiting spoke about their work and those attending were able to ask questions about the artists' work and talk to them after their presentations.

This exhibition is the last to be presented by the current curator Rachel Arndt, before she moves to her new role of Director of Wangaratta Art Gallery in Victoria. Rachel took up her position here in 2021 and since then has provided leadership in a significant journey of development for a Regional Gallery in a short space of time. Details of the initiatives she has led were touched on in a previous newsletter, including workshops with young people and school students. In the last two years the number of visitors has grown 55%, with local visitors at about half that number. Significant grant funding of about \$200,000 for projects has been obtained. Investment has also been obtained from partners such as the UQ Art Museum and the Australia Council, plus grants for individual artists. This funding has enabled improvements to the infrastructure, such as lighting, which will be a lasting legacy. Thanks are due to Rachel for the energy, enthusiasm, knowledge and professionalism she has brought to her role.

The photo shows Rachel against the background of work by Tyza Hart, one of the artists exhibiting. Tyza has had a number of solo exhibitions, including at the Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane and the Museum of Brisbane. Tyza also has work held in national public and private collections including QAGOMA.

Best wishes,

Shirley

Join SASI Groups

Click on the LOGO to visit the SASI Website



Join SASI - <https://www.sasiart.com.au/memberships>

SASI Members participate in supporting the arts and artists in SE Qld. They enjoy free exhibition curation at Glen Rock Gallery Esk, discounted or free workshops and no cost participation in SASI Members Market Stalls.

SASI Contacts : <https://www.sasiart.com.au/contact>

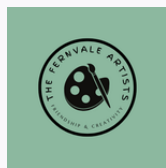
For more info Click the photo to visit SASI website Groups page



Join the Mount Beppo Artists - Contact: Gwen 0437 197 381

Meeting on Wednesday mornings from 9am until 1pm at Mount Beppo Community Hall, 916 Mount Beppo Rd, Mount Beppo QLD. New members warmly welcomed.

Click on the LOGO to visit The Fernvale Artists Facebook page



Join the Fernvale Artists - Contact Sue White 0407 072 926

The Fernvale Artists meet on Thursdays 9.30am - 12.30pm at the Fernvale Community Hall in Banks Creek Road, Fernvale, or at the Lowood Open Door Gallery. Anyone in the local area is welcome to join them, or just to visit.

For more info Click on the Camera to visit SASI Photography Group page



Join SASI Photography Group
Contact Phil Lister Email plphotographix@gmail.com

The photography group have fun learning to take better photographs. New members are very welcome. Activities, including outings workshops and talks, are advertised through the SASI newsletter.

Join Somerset Regional Council Volunteers



Join the Esk Visitor Information Centre Tourism Volunteers
Contact Carole Labram mail@somerset.qld.gov.au

To Apply visit [Volunteer | Experience Somerset](#)

To Apply Visit <https://thecondensery.com.au/about/get-involved/>



Become a Gallery Ambassador at The Condensery
Contact Rachael Arndt mail@somerset.qld.gov.au

Supporting the arts and regional tourism

Join a Somerset Group

<https://www.somerset.qld.gov.au/somerset-arts-culture-directory>

Somerset Arts and Culture Directory

A Somerset Regional Council Initiative supporting the arts and regional tourism



Esk Glen Rock Stitchers Lynne Robson Ph 07 5424 1382

The Glen Rock Stitchers meet every Thursday in air-conditioned comfort at the Anglican Hall, Ipswich Street, Esk. They sew and share ideas and knowledge amongst friends with this common interest.



Calendar of Events

What's on and What's coming up

Happening This Month

Glen Rock Gallery - Meet the Artist

9:30am, 2nd June

Come and meet Betty Williams!

Colour Pencil Workshop with Linda Maine

3rd June, Esk; Workshop Fee: \$45

9am for a 9:30am start, finishes 3:30pm

Ipswich Lockyer Greens - World Environment Day

3-4 June

SASI Committee Meeting

9:45am for 10am, 16th June

SASI Stall at Esk Garden and Lifestyle Fair

Saturday 17th June 8am-3pm

SASI is set to have two stalls, Co-ordinator Sue Howard

Coming Up

Somerset Celebrates Art in July 2023

A fantastic program of arts events awaits us in July.

Workshops, Exhibitions, Meet the Artist events, Demonstrations, Pottery Studio Tour, Art Gallery Tours, Concerts, Art Markets, En plein air event to name a few.

The full program booklet will be available in late May/early June from

- Somerset Libraries, and online at
- <https://www.somerset.qld.gov.au/> and
- <https://www.sasiart.com.au/newsletter> page
- emailed to your inbox from Secretary@sasiart.com.au

Check it out - plan your trip - book into workshops - come have some fun!

1 & 2 July Celebrate Art in Lowood

8 & 9 July Celebrate Art in Fernvale

15 & 16 July Celebrate Art in Esk

22 July Celebrate Art in Toogoolawah & Coal Creek

23 July Celebrate Art in Toogoolawah & Mt Beppo

29 July Celebrate Art in Kilcoy

30 July Celebrate Art in Kilcoy & Linville



Glen Rock Gallery

supported by SASI and Somerset Regional Council

ESK VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE 82 IPSWICH STREET, ESK, QLD 4312
TUES-FRI 9-4 WEEKENDS: 10-2 CLOSED: MONDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

What's Up at Glen Rock

Betty Williams

FRI 2ND JUNE - WED 5TH JULY

Meet The Artist at Glen Rock Gallery

FRIDAY 2ND JUNE 9:15AM

What's Coming to Glen Rock Gallery

JULY

Deb Dawkings & Coal Creek Pottery

AUGUST

Deb Johnstone-Booker

SEPTEMBER

Kim Simmons

Not Far From Here by Betty Williams

2ND JUNE 2023 - 5TH JULY 2023

Betty's exhibition is quite traditional, but with added colour. She loves landscapes, skies and the textures of nature. Canvas is her mainstay. She uses either oils or acrylics and sometimes dabbles in watercolours. Recently, she experimented with photography.



Expect to find unique treasures.



Beautiful Cards - original artworks by SASI members!

View the full exhibition at Glen Rock Gallery, Esk Visitor Information Centre 82 Ipswich Street, Esk, QLD 4312 Tues-Fri 9-4 Weekends: 10-2

[CLICK to EXPLORE
Glen Rock Gallery online](#)

In The Display Cabinets at Glen Rock

LOCAL ARTISTS

Exquisite Cards and Gifts

Glen Rock Gallery Curators

Jan Godfrey, Sue Howard, Betty Williams.

Note: the Gallery is closed on the first Thursday of the month for curating the new exhibition



Lowood Open Door Gallery

A Lowood Lions Project

RAILWAY STREET, LOWOOD, QLD 4311
THUR 9:30AM - 12:30PM SAT/SUN 9:30AM - 2PM

What's Up at Lowood

Fun Fur & Fantasy
5TH MAY

In The Cabinets at Lowood

NEW DISPLAYS EACH MONTH

Lowood Open Door Gallery

The June exhibition in the Open Door Gallery will be of the work of the Hands on Learning students at the Lowood State High School.

Hands on Learning (HoL) is an innovative education program that caters to the different ways young people learn. It fosters strong, long term relationships that help young people develop the skills and abilities they need to succeed in work and life like collaboration, problem solving, communication, resilience and empathy. (from the Lowood State High School website).

See the flyer attached for more!

Workshops at the Lowood Open Door Gallery

Resin Workshop

10th June, 1:00 - 5:00pm

A fun afternoon workshop to learn the basics of resin.

Your work will be left overnight to cure and can be picked up the next day.
Don't wear good clothes.

All material supplied. Cost \$50

Books call Karen 0402 217 912



Scratch Art Workshop

2nd July, 1:00 - 3:00pm

A 2 hour workshop where you will learn the basics of Scratch Art.

Everything will be supplied for use.

Adult Classes 18+ all skill levels welcome

All material supplied. Cost \$40

Bookings essential. Book and pay at the link

<https://square.link/u/WE5XPdDU>

Contact Karen 0402 217 912



Pastel Workshop

2nd July, 9:00am - 12:00pm

Cost \$50

Bookings essential. Book and pay at the link

<https://square.link/u/HvWbb8qc>

Contact Karen 0402 217 912



Let's Make Art Workshop

6th August, 1:00 - 5:00pm

Cost \$55

For booking and payment please contact

Marita 0425 735 581





The Condensery

Somerset Regional Art Gallery

29 FACTORY ROAD TOOGOOLOWAH QLD 4313
WED TO SUN 10AM – 4PM CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

What's Up at the Condensery

THINGS I WANT TO SAY

6TH MAY - 16 JUL 2023

THINGS I WANT TO SAY

JORDAN AZCUNE | TYZA HART | DYLAN MOONEY | LUCE
NGUYỄN-HUNT | GUTINARRA YUNUPINGU | JUSTINE YOUSSEF
6 MAY - 16 JUL 2023

Things I want to say brings together artists from across the country whose practices negotiate identity in contemporary Australia. Focusing on artists with a connection to Queensland, the exhibition will encourage conversation around navigating one's sense of self within the pressures of broader society.



CREATION STATION 6 May - 16 July 2023

What makes you, you? What do you want to say?
Create a felt person 'you' to tell your story. Or choose a speech bubble to tell your story in pictures, symbols or words and stick it to our blackboard wall.
Come and join the conversation!
Drop in anytime during opening hours to create your own 'you'!



Creation Station at The Condensery

EXPLORE The Condensery Website

CLICK to EXPLORE
<https://thecondensery.com.au/>

Condensery Gallery Manager Rachael Arndt mail@somerset.qld.gov.au or
Contact Email thecondensery@somerset.qld.gov.au



Art Workshops 2023

Contact: SASI Photography
Workshop Coordinator

Phil Lister

plphotographix@gmail.com

Contact us to recommend a
Workshop with a particular
tutor and/or in a specific media

Contact: SASI Art Workshop
Coordinator

Joanne Hegney

workshop@sasiart.com.au

Artists are most welcome
to apply to present a
workshop

Colour Pencils Workshop
Only six slots left!
FILLING FAST - BOOK NOW!

Colour Pencils Workshop

Artist: Linda Maine

Date: 3rd June

Fee: \$45

Location: St Agnes Church Hall Esk

Time: 9:30 - 3:30

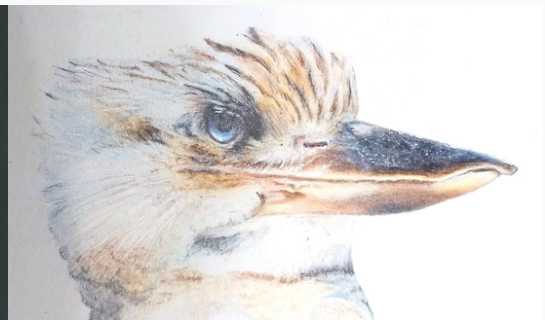
Morning & Afternoon teas provided BYO lunch.

Registrations NOW OPEN!

Register Here:

<https://www.sasiart.com.au/workshops>

This workshop has options for participants:
A Kookaburra, which is a more challenging project
and will require more time.
The Dragonfly, Frog and Shells are less challenging,
each will have their own inspiring demands.



Landscaping with a limited palette

Artist: Julie Maddocks

Date: 19th August

Location: St Agnes Church Hall Esk

Time: 9:30 - 3:30

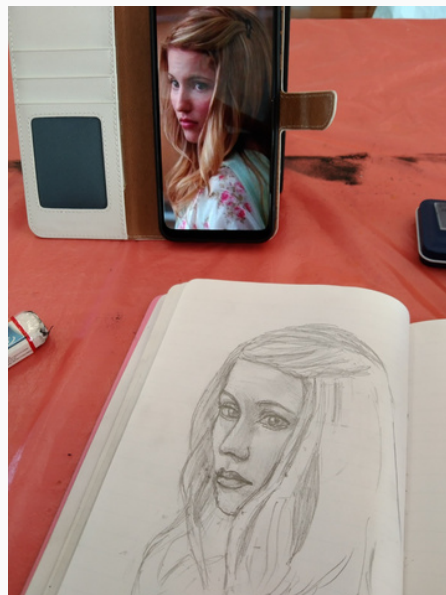
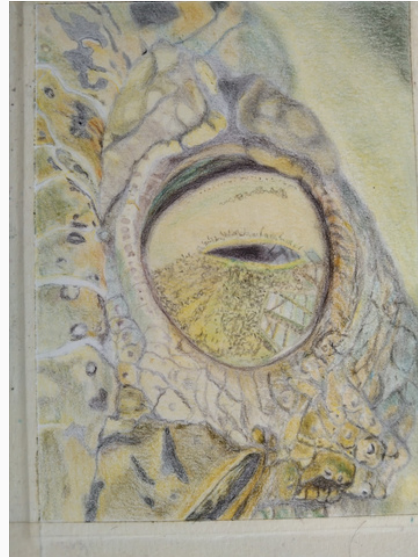
Morning & Afternoon teas provided BYO lunch.

Registrations open 15th June 2023

Mt Beppo Artists

Mt Beppo Artists attended the 'Glimpses' Meet the Artists Opening on 5th May, enjoying the works and the company of new SASI members Michelle Ledwith and Margaret Pearson. What a treat! Congratulations to the artists and curators. Mt Beppo Artists will meet again at Glen Rock Gallery on Friday 2nd June 2023 at 9:30am to celebrate the exhibition of fellow Mt Beppo artist and SASI member Betty Williams. Join us there and for morning tea at Angie's Cafe.

The Artists are looking forward to Somerset Celebrates Art in July 2023. Doors open at Mt Beppo Hall from 10am -2pm on Sunday 23rd of July. You are Invited to drop in, relax and make art with us at our new 'quick as you like' mini workshops and art demonstrations. Morning tea and light lunch available for purchase.



Esk Show 2023 Section 10 Visual Arts Results

Congratulations!

Many SASI members won prizes for their quality artworks in the Visual Arts section of the Esk Show. The visual arts section attracted 94 exhibits across 19 classes. The twenty Open Painting and Drawing exhibits and thirteen Art Feature; Water made a stunning display. Thank you to all the artists who participated, the Chief Steward: Jan Godfrey, Curator: Betty Williams and Curator's assistant Shirley Gregor, Steward: Nelle Smith and our diligent Judge: Robin Garland Sitcovich.

Jan Godfrey has joyfully passed on the role of Esk Show Chief Steward Fine Arts to the lovely Gai Edmonds. Jan will introduce Gai to the Esk Show Society at their next meeting. As Chief Steward, Gai has the opportunity to review the Visual Arts Schedule, decide the Art Feature subject and nominate the stewards to assist. The current team are all willing!

We look forward to another excellent display of your works next year.

2023 Prize winners and Highly Commended (HC) in classes 1 to 7

Painting and Drawing Open 1st Anne Dighton - How Sweet the Music, 2nd Gai Edmonds - Hydrangeas, 3rd Frances Avent - Foothills of Wilpena Pound, HC: Shirley Gregor - Orange Tiger, Leonie Knowles - Dressing Up, Linda Maine - Frosty Morn.

Sculpture Open 1st Gai Edmonds - Hat.

Decorative Arts Open 1st Gai Edmonds - Gnomelandia, 2nd Jan Godfrey - Gecko Pueblo

Painting and Drawing Novice 1st Laine Battersby - Evans Head in Summer, 2nd Stephen George - Boats at Sunrise, 3rd Nelle Smith - The Look of Love,

Sculpture Novice Asher Zabel - Horseshoe Mustering Chopper, 2nd Nelle Smith - Basket Case

Decorative Arts Novice 1st Lincoln Via - Lava Bead Dish, 2nd Lincoln Via - Dam Reed Water Bowl, 3rd Nelle Smith - Fairy.

ART FEATURE Water Open 1st Linda Maine - All at Sea, 2nd Marita Reynolds - Divers Underwater, 3rd Ron Orr - Pt Danger at Sunrise, 4th Michelle Ledwith - Lillies on the Dam.
HC: Anne Dighton - Sitting by the Pond, Lincoln Via - Wave Break Platter.

Champion Classes 1-6 1st Asher Zabel - Horseshoe Mustering Chopper

Champion Prep to Yr 6: Wyart Marini - The Great Eruption

Champion Yr 7 to Yr 12: Charlotte Sybenga - Self Portrait

Charlotte Sybenga, (Esk Show Visual Arts Champion Yr 7 - 12), has agreed to exhibit her art at Glen Rock Gallery in mid 2024. A young artist, Charlotte does exquisite pencil work. An exhibition well worth waiting for.



How Sweet the Music by Anne Dighton



All at Sea by Linda Maine

Artificial what???

So there is gossip on the block about this thing called AI - Artificial Intelligence (or Attempted Intelligence, Assisted Inspiration, Artistic Invasion etc., I'll give a packet of TimTams for the most creative name before the next Newsletter!).

For those of you who may not be aware, there is an artificial way of creating computer based visual "art" - AI or Artificial Intelligence. This is not a new thing, it's been around for a long time but usually in relation to robotics, military applications and movies. It has gained popularity recently in both photography and art and the results are nothing short of spectacular. In February this year a Sydney based AI company won first prize in an Australian photography competition with an image that did not exist in real life. They did own up straight away though and refused to accept the first place prize but the entire process did make a somewhat scary statement about the future of photography, and, inevitably, art. Poor Ansel would roll in his grave!

These computer programs are so sophisticated you only need to type in what you would like to create and Hey Presto - a new, original art piece generated right before your eye's! For example, you type in something like " A soft pastel beach scene with surfers riding waves at sunset" or "A green ferny rainforest with mystical fairy-light homes" and that's pretty much it. The computer creates its interpretation of the scene and the viewer would be very hard pressed to tell the difference between that and a real photo/painting, except maybe for the fairy-light homes!

But what does this mean for the future of photography? I saw it written somewhere that digital was to analogue as what AI will be to digital. I think that is a scary and sad thought. Think about it. Could the photography and art world soon become the domain of darkly lit offices with brightly lit screens and sophisticated computers pumping out incredible creations one after the other? And the only effort needed would be a fertile imagination. Will this be a threat to photography and inevitably cause the possible demise of the trusty digital camera? Will this really happen?

The short answer is yes and no. Some areas will be replaced. Product photography will be one (think home decor and appliance catalogues like IKEA) and any area where the imagery does not need to be taken from real life. But the majority of photography will probably not be replaced. Street photography, journalism, weddings and events, people who want to take family photos, capture birthdays, holidays and camping trips, scenes and places travelled to and many others where AI cannot recreate real people and real places in time will remain.

What about landscape photography? It would be easy to use AI to create magical landscapes and I'm sure there will be many people who will do this. But for me it has meant and will continue to be putting on my trusty Scarpas, getting up early or going out late in the day, putting my camera backpack on, grabbing my tripod and heading off on some trail somewhere, feeling the wind on my face, listening to the chorus of birds calling and the crunch of sticks and leaves under foot while chasing the light. I don't think anything compares to getting out and experiencing this. It's authentic and real and it's where I like to be - making real photos with a real camera.

If anyone wants to look at this in more detail just go to Youtube and search for "Photography and the Rise of A.I." by Sean Tucker. A great perspective.

What do you think?
Until next time
Phil

SASI Members Page

Dedicated to members, for members, from members.

Recommended by Members



Ipswich Art Society

Saturday Morning Casual Painting
SECOND SATURDAY of each MONTH 9.00AM TO 1.00PM

The Old Court House (Ginn street rear entrance) cnr
East and Roderick Streets , Ipswich.

Come along to our Untutored Art Group held at the Old
Ipswich Courthouse to enjoy some quality time and
share ideas and interact with other artists.

Cost: \$5.00 for Members and \$10 for non members
with 'join on arrival' facility.
Coffee/tea is provided , bring your lunch.



If you're setting up to photograph something
and need flowers to fill in space, or to be a
focal point, consider giving Flowers by
Felicity a call and discuss your requirements.
Located just out of Esk on the Hampton Road.



Felicity Maden,

✉ emervale4@activ8.net.au

☎ 0413 133 168

📷 #FlowerPower

Riot Art and Craft Stores
are now stocking
quality artist supplies
<https://riotstores.com.au>

A selection of
Mont Marte Artist Supplies
are available at
Toogoolawah
Home Timber and Hardware

Contact Donna Phone: 5423 1222

Cressbrook News and Stationery

Contact Mark or Pauline Phone: 54231396



creativebug

**STREAM ART & CRAFT
CLASSES FOR FREE AT
YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY**

LEARN HOW

SASI appreciates the support of Esk Fruit Shop and Angie's Country Cafe, who display
SASI brochures and our Glen Rock Gallery posters.

LOWOOD STATE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT EXHIBITION JUNE



2023



Open Door Gallery (Lowood Lions Club)

ORIGINAL STUDENT ART WORKS!

The result is spectacular and most works are for sale.

Please support them by visiting on:
Saturdays or Sundays
In the month of June , 2023
From 9.30 am to 2 pm.

Official Opening: Saturday 10th June
10.30 am to 12 midday

