



Newsletter
of
Artists of the Valley
&
Gorman's Art Gallery

Casterton, Victoria

Inaugural Life Membership Awarded

The evening of the Clarice Beckett Art Award opening saw the inaugural *Artists of the Valley's Life Membership* award being presented to Glad Laslett.

A founding member of the group, Glad, has been a stalwart in support and encouragement since the group's inception, and did a wonderful job in the role of President for several consecutive years.

She has more than earned a bit of peace and quiet, though still attends meetings and gives us a friendly but necessary tug into line when needed.

Thank you, Glad, for being such a special person in the group, and in our lives.



Current President Collin Tenney and Beth Dwyer bracket a surprised Glad Laslett, as she accepts her Life Member award for Artists of the Valley.

Pre-Planning for 'Plein Air Plus' Arts Event

Artists can be a stubborn bunch, especially when they come up with what they think is a great idea.

Planning for the plein air event proposed last year by Collin, stumbled into a temporary pot

hole, through no fault of Collin's. But, like the district's current road repairs, potholes are being filled and there is movement towards a more-inclusive event, later this year.

Discussions with other local businesses and groups are underway.

Come along to The **Albion Hotel on August 12th at 7.00 pm for the 'Meet and Greet'**. Bring your friends, spread the word, and be encouraged and enthused about what promises to be an exciting opportunity to put Casterton on the 'Arts' map.



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Editor's Ink ~ Jenn White ~ No Disrespect

When using Vincent van Gogh's portrait rather irreverently (snaffled from the amazing and amusing work of collage artist Barry Kite—plus adding and altering an equally irreverent Mona) for the promo for the Meet and Greet, my curiosity was piqued. Did Vincent really sell only one painting while alive? I recognise a lot of his work, but who was the man? A van Gogh researcher, and Vincent's great-grand-nephew enlightened me.

- ◆ Vincent actually sold 'several' works while he was alive, so was not fully rejected as an artist before his death.
- ◆ He worked as an artist for only 10 years before his suicide, so would have sold more work. In that decade he created about 2,100 artworks, including around 860 oil paintings. The majority were painted in the last two years of his life.
- ◆ It is a myth that he worked with candles on his hat.
- ◆ He studied theology in Amsterdam, but was uninterested in subjects such as algebra, Latin and Greek. To appease his teacher, when neglecting his homework, he stole flowers from the graveyard to present as a replacement. This, however did nothing to ease his own conscience, and he would hurt himself as punishment.
- ◆ He worked as a librarian and translated the Bible into Dutch, German, English and French.
- ◆ Vincent disliked crowds and found it difficult to meet new people. He dreamt of having a wife and family of his own, though this dream went unfulfilled.
- ◆ He was a fast walker and walked over 100 miles in 3 days. And, commemorated his shoes in a painting. He wrote in a letter to his brother, "Death is like a journey to the stars; to die peacefully is like going there on foot."



Vincent is buried next to his younger brother, patron and dearest friend Theo van Gogh.

"If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint,' then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced." Vincent



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Dover Gardens
Adelaide
South Australia 5048

0413 279 731

Gorman's Real Estate Agency

70 Henty Street
Casterton, Victoria
Ph/Fax (03) 5581 1381
Mobile: 0418 375 487

Casterton Farm Supplies

1 Henty Street
Casterton, Victoria

5581 1344

Robyn Rhodes' Music School

Casterton, Victoria

5581 1105



Albion Hotel Motel
25 Henty Street
Casterton,
Victoria
(03) 5581 1092

Lucy's Artist Cottage
134 Henty Street
Casterton
Coming soon
0459 662 226



5940 Portland-Casterton Road
Sandford, Victoria, 3312
0418 132 047



Meagan Lonsdale with one of her works at her solo exhibition at the Naracoorte Art Gallery in April this year, and below, another of her beautiful works on paper.

The amazing and detailed art of Meagan Lonsdale—Gallery member and this year’s winner of the Clarice Beckett Art Award (see Page 6)—will be exhibited at the *Red Tail Gallery* in Edenhope.

The exhibition opens on Sunday afternoon **3rd September and runs through until October 1st**. The *Red Tail Gallery*, in the main street of Edenhope, is open Thursday through to Sunday.

Meagan’s talent and skill, with any medium she puts her hand to, is an inspiration for other artists who have far more years layered on their palettes. Her work focuses mainly on

the natural world, and results in stunning pieces.

It is a joint exhibition with Kerry Bolwell, an artist and graphic designer from Horsham.

Kerry Bolwell works in a variety of mediums and styles. Her take on pointillism and line work are expertly defined and detailed.

The exhibition promises to be a viewing delight, for anyone who appreciates great talent and great art.



Giraffe by Kerry Bolwell

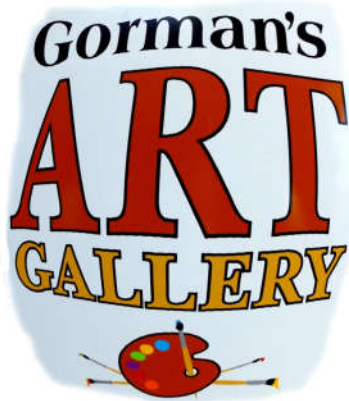
Well Done, Members!

The annual call for entries into the South East Art Society’s *Open Art Awards*, always attracts the attention of our members. Across the border in Mount Gambier, the long-running exhibition of entries at the Riddoch Art Gallery is an opportunity to get work on view by a broad audience.

Congratulations go to **Ros Millstead**, who took out the *Best Works on paper*, and **Julie Kent** for achieving a *Highly Commended* for one of her entries.

Well done, lady artists!





Open 11.00 am till 3.00 pm
Thursday, Friday, and Saturday
80 Henty Street, Casterton

NEWS

Collection of Artwork of Past Members

Artists who no longer wish to be members and have work (stored) at the Gallery are asked to please collect their work, to free up space.

The Gallery takes all care, but accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage.

At the July meeting, several items were discussed, proposed and passed by majority vote, as needed.

- ◆ There is an upper limit (a maximum) of 10 *hanging* works permitted for members to exhibit in the Gallery at any one time.
- ◆ Approaching the Casterton Men's Shed to construct a mobile card rack for the Gallery was approved. Note: Collin has done so and the Men's Shed will supply a design and quote.
- ◆ If, during any particular month, a member cannot fulfil his/her commitment to sit as volunteer at the Gallery, 30% commission will be deducted from any sales of his/her work for that month.

- ◆ Suzie McKenzie is assisting Penny Fontaine with the roster for volunteers. The roster is no mean feat, so thank you ladies!
- ◆ Suzie is also taking the reins for the *Artist of the Month* exhibitions—one of the original aims at the Gallery's inception, but not acted upon until now. Names were put into a 'hat' and selected at random (see details on adjacent page). If anyone has a problem with their allotted month, please let Suzie know as soon as possible, to arrange an alternate time-slot.

Thank You, Suzie for getting this project up and running!

- ◆ Business cards for the Gallery are forthcoming. As is a new batch of printed Artwork Exhibition cards.

DIARY DATES 2017

General Meetings
Third Thursday every three months

24th August **NEW DATE**

16th November

4.00 pm at
Gorman's Art Gallery
80 Henty Street, Casterton

Your input is valued
Please attend if at all possible

NEW Members always Welcome!

Memberships are Now OVERDUE

Membership is **\$35** annually. This entitles you to exhibit work at the Gallery, free entry to the opening night of the annual Clarice Beckett Art Award, voting rights at meetings, and newsletters and notices. It also ensures you have your say.

Renewal Forms are available at the Gallery, or contact Jenn to email one out. You can now pay by Direct Deposit (for details please see the form).

Please return completed forms to ensure your details and membership are current, and you don't miss any news!

The mind of a creative person is like a web browser that has 2,857 tabs open all the time.

Artist of the Month

Suzie McKenzie has approached the *Casterton News*, and the paper has kindly offered to feature *Gorman's Art Gallery's Artist of the Month*. It is a wonderful opportunity to promote the Gallery and its artist Members. Artists are urged to help make this run smoothly.

What we Need from the **Featured Artist!**

To make this a successful venture, and a stress-free collaboration between the *Casterton News* and Gorman's Art Gallery, artists **MUST** do their bit in a **timely fashion**. If you feel you cannot do this, or do not wish to have your art featured, please let Suzie know.

What?

For the Gallery (one screen both sides provided)

New Artwork is encouraged and **MUST** be at the Gallery, ready to hang, **the week BEFORE** the beginning of 'your' month

- ◆ **Optional but Encouraged**—a few lines about each piece of artwork you are exhibiting. It's always interesting, and often fascinating, for folk to learn where an artist's inspiration comes from.

For the newspaper article, the Month's Featured Artist needs to supply:

- ◆ A current (digital) photo of you, the artist, **preferably at your 'work'**.
- ◆ A brief artist's profile—outlining your art 'history', motivation, preferred mediums, etc. (Think of it as a small exercise in self-promotion.)

When?

The **DEADLINE** for the newspaper content is **mid-month preceding your time in the spotlight!**

How?

Email your photo and profile directly to Marion Cowland at the *Casterton News*—subject 'Artist of the Month' (so she knows what it's for!) to: reception@castnews.com.au

If you would like your profile proofread, Beth and Jenn are willing to assist. Just ask!

No email? Get the hard copies, to Jenn or Beth Dwyer in good time for typing and forwarding to the newspaper. Jenn will also do a photo shoot if needed.

If you want help, please ask, and, please, **please don't leave it until the death-knock** (we all know what artists are like with deadlines 😊) No stopping the presses!

OUT OF THE HAT

Each current and financial artist member will be featured in a separate mini-exhibition. To achieve randomness, Suzie plucked members' names from a 'hat' in the following order.

Any questions or concerns, contact Suzie on 0437 445 135

AUG	Beth Dwyer
SEP	Jenn White
OCT	Glad Laslett
NOV	Ros Millstead
DEC	Narelle Gill
JAN 2018	Collin Tenney
FEB	Janette Ireland
MAR	Chris Neiwand
APR	Julie Kent
MAY	Jo Taylor
JUN	Molly Galpin
JUL	Meagan Lonsdale
AUG	Bernice Steinfort
SEP	Suzie McKenzie
OCT	Carol Duckett
NOV	Penny Fontaine
DEC	Alannah Wood
JAN 2019	Sally Bull

Another Year Honouring 'Our' Clarice Beckett

This year's Clarice Beckett Art Award was a resounding success, with nothing but positive feedback from those attending the opening night and the exhibition. Utilising the Gorman's Art Gallery space worked a treat, helping to make the atmosphere warm and sociable on a chilly evening.

Every artist who entered work for the award can be congratulated for their talent and quality of entries, making this year's judging a hard task.

This Year's Judge

Lucy Ingemann, a new business owner and part-time resident of Casterton, was excited by the prospect of judging the award. Along with an encouraging and friendly manner, she came with some impressive credentials, .

Lucy completed her Bachelor in Fine art, majoring in Painting at the University of Ballarat. Following this, she undertook a three month Artist in Residence at Camac centre d'art in Rural France (Champagne Ardenne region).

After living in London for a time, working a day job as well as fashion photography freelancing, Lucy returned to live in Melbourne. There she completed a Masters in Arts Management at RMIT University, receiving honours. This new degree provided extensive knowledge and skills in such areas as project management, risk management, research methods and specifically in course units on law and public policy planning.

Lucy's current day job is working for the Australian Border Force - Immigration. To keep her hand in with the arts, she volunteers at the artist-run space *Trocadero Gallery* in Footscray, working as their grants writer and assisting with

the installation, curating and planning for exhibitions. It also involves assisting with providing original marketing material for both print and social media outlets.

As keen art collectors, Lucy and her fiancé, have travelled extensively, visiting many galleries and museums around the world. They maintained their interest in the arts by studying the burgeoning artist population in New York and the influence artists and art have had in the transforming and gentrification of communities.

Lucy's research has led her to recognise how this is the vital ingredient to growth and community cohesion. For this reason, she was excited to see and meet the strong artist community in Casterton.



This year's Overall Winner of the Clarice Beckett Art Award was Meagan Lonsdale, from over Edenhope way, for her beautiful and meticulous work titled 'Orchids of the Wimmera' (above). Meagan also won the 'Best Works on Paper' for the same work.

Congratulations to Meagan and the other Section Winners, their works seen opposite, and Julie Kent for taking out the People's Choice

And the 2017 Winners are....

Right: Best Oil went to Dagny Strand for 'Vanishing Point'.

Below: Best 3D to Bruce Kennewell for 'Joe Blake'.



Above: Best Youth to Indiana Walker for 'Wise Old Owl'.



Above: Best Watercolour to Julie Kent for 'Cottage Olde World Garden'.

Left: Best Acrylic to Beth Dwyer for 'Out of the Darkness'.



For insight into what our judge was looking for while viewing the entries, you can read Lucy's criteria on Page 8

A Judge's Perspective

This year's judge of the *Clarice Beckett Art Award* shares her judging process. Lucy says...

The criteria that I used to help guide me in picking the winner of each category for the show were: Beauty, Skill, Uniqueness, and overall Aesthetic.

Beauty: Obviously not all art is beautiful, but I was interested in looking for work that used colours that compliment or enhance each other, compositions that are interesting and well thought out. How well has the work been presented? Has the artist taken measures to ensure the work looks finished and hung and framed appropriately? (for instance)

Skill: Technical skill is something to be measured. How skilfully was it made? What knowledge has the artist demonstrated in their work with their chosen use of medium, and how masterfully have they been able to achieve the end result? When looking for skill, it is not who can paint or draw the most realistically, but who can demonstrate a masterful use of medium or brush stroke, in a well-considered manner. Has the artist created the piece in a consistent manner – does it look rushed or strange, or is it cohesive?

Uniqueness: Looking for work that either explores new subjects or subjects in a new or interesting way. Is there something different that I can notice within the work, and if so – does it distract or enhance the piece, and make it unique?

To sum it up:

I was looking for artwork that is unusual or exceptional, not expected or popular. The artwork I selected as best in each category wasn't necessarily what is most saleable, as I am not necessarily drawn to what is safe, typical, pretty, and comfortable. Furthermore, subtle and intriguing images is what I was most interested in.

Right: A wonderful evening with lots of mingling, convivial conversation and a great atmosphere at Gorman's Art Gallery.



President Collin Tenney taking in comments by Lucy Ingemann, this year's judge.



Life Member Glad Laslett and her daughter Leonie Johns did a wonderful job on the 'door'.





'The Clarice' 2017



Clockwise from Top: Full attention given by attendees to the speeches and announcements. Robyn Rhodes and Peter Gorman at the piano delight the crowd. Julie Kent accepts her award with her ever-present sense of humour.

Print Exhibition at Sandford

As part of the 'Home is Where the Hall is' annual project run by Regional Arts Victoria in November, Jenn is planning an exhibition of prints.

Involved for several years in international print exchanges, and with over 300 prints done by artists from around the world—in all styles and methods of printmaking—she figured it is about time others had the chance to see them.

In the lead up to the exhibition, Jenn will be conducting one or more printmaking workshops at Gorman's Art Gallery. Workshop/s will

provide an opportunity for members and others interested in having a go, to learn and produce some prints (to exhibit and sell?).

You will also discover why Jenn's face lights up whenever printmaking is mentioned.

Details are being finalised, and Jenn will keep you informed with progress.





The calendar of Opportunities is now condensed to
 What and Who-to-Contact, for the
MONTH in which ENTRIES CLOSE
 (Mostly Annual Awards)
**If you can add to the calendar,
 please tell Jenn!**

Murtoa's Big Weekend Art Exhibition

CONTACT:
 slaamurt@bigpond.net.au
 No details as yet.

Portland Rotary Art Show

CONTACT:
 www.portlandrotary.org.au/art-show
 No details as yet.

JULY

Coleraine Art & Photography Show
Entries CLOSE Friday 28th July
\$3.00 per Entry—10% Commission
Deliver: From 4 to 7 pm Wednesday 9th August
Opening: Fri 11th August at 6.30 pm
Collection: Sunday 13th August
 Forms available at Gorman's Art Gallery or Jenn

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

Wattle Range Art Exhibition
 Millicent Art Gallery
Themed: Wattle Range Subjects
Entries CLOSE: Fri 22nd September
Entry Fee \$10—20% commission
Deliver: Fri 29th September
Opening: Fri 6th October at 6.30 pm
Collect: Week of 7th November
 Forms available from <https://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/WRAS>
 Or emailed from Jenn

Birregurra Festival Art Show
 Birregurra Hall, Main Street, Birregurra
Entries CLOSE Fri 8th September
Entry Fee \$15—25% commission
Deliver: 11 am till 6 pm Wed 11th October
Opening: Fri 12th October—\$15
Collect: 4.30-5.30 Sun 15th October
 Contact Jenn for forms if interested.

Rotary Club of North Hamilton Art Show
Entries CLOSE Fri 15th September
Entry Fee \$8—25% commission
Deliver: 10 am till 4.30 pm 9th or 10th October
Opening: Fri 13th October 7 pm
Collect: 3.30-6 pm Sun 15th October
CONTACT: rotary-art.weebly.com

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

Naracoorte Art Gallery Prize—Ibis Rising (2D, 3D, photographic, Student)

CONTACT:
 naracoortegallery@gmail.com

A4 Art Australia—2D and 3D
Prizes From Sales ONLY

CONTACT:
 www.contemporaryartsociety.org.au/exhibitions/a4-art-australia

MARCH

APRIL

Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery's National Works on Paper

CONTACT:
http://mprg.mornpen.vic.gov.au/ABOUT_US/National_Works_on_Paper

MAY

John Shaw Neilson Art Prize (Acquisitive)

Prize \$8,000
CONTACT:
 www.artsfestival.com.au/competitoons/john-shaw-neilson-art-prize

JUNE

Clarice Beckett Art Award

CONTACT:
 Gorman's Art Gallery