



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

Casterton, Victoria

Honouring 'Our' Artist, Clarice Beckett



Father Time has donned his roller skates, bringing us speedily to the second quarter of 2018, (already!) and it's time to be thinking about entries for this year's Clarice Beckett Art Award.

At the last meeting of members, it was decided to make several changes to the rules and prizes. See page 4 for details.

Artists of the Valley &
Gorman's Art Gallery
Present
the 2018



Opening & Awards
Presentation
Friday 8th June
at 6 pm

Gorman's Art Gallery
80 Henty Street
Casterton
(Opposite Town Hall)

See the
Exhibition
Sat 9th & Sun 10th
June

9.30 am till 4.00 pm

Entry \$10 - Wine and Nibbles

\$1,000 in Prizes
Entries Close 3.00 pm on 2nd June 2018
Contact: Jenn on 0418 132 047

Entry Forms are available from the Gallery, as of now. For those who receive the newsletter via email, a digital copy of the entry form will accompany this issue.



Top: Clarice Beckett enjoying *en plein air*.

Above: Last year's Clarice Beckett Award winning entry, 'Orchids of the Wimmera' by Meagan Lonsdale.

Contents

- The Clarice Beckett Art Award
- Editor's Ink
- Artist of the Month & Opportunities
- Gorman's Art Gallery News

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

NEW Members always Welcome!

Membership is **\$35** annually - Exhibit work at the Gallery, free entry to the opening night of the *Clarice Beckett Art Award*, voting rights, featured as 'Artist of the Month', newsletters and notices.

Forms are available at the Gallery, or contact Jenn (418 132 047 or jennw@spin.net.au). You can now pay by Direct Deposit (for details please see the form). **Please** return completed forms.

RENEWALS for 2018 were due in February!

"I am seeking.
I am striving.
I am in it with
all my heart."

Vincent van Gogh

"Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try"

- Dr. Seuss

Editor's Ink ~ Jenn White

Humble apologies for no New Year newsletter. I did promise myself to back off in certain areas, but had not anticipated *The Loaded Brush* scooting off my plate, and landing amongst lino slivers and dust bunnies. Fortunately, the creative lives of members have continued, without a four-page intervention.

As one who battles with too much self-pressure, there are times when being a 'creative tragic' gives me the pip, metaphorically and literally. Some days, I'm bombarded with inspiration, and can't possibly follow each idea to a happy conclusion. I just won't live long enough. Feeling time running out, over-burdened by the Muse, and perceiving myself inadequate, I become despondent, and lose a day, or two, immersed in my current novel and someone else's conflict.

Other times the Muse is visiting a distant planet. Those times, I wonder 'why'... Why do I persist? Why bother? My soul is as parched as the chook-scratched garden beds. I might as well be mucking around in the feral yard, cursing the dust in my eyes.

Ah, bugger it, that's exactly what I'll do, go outside, wear myself out physically and numb myself mentally.

Then, who should appear - one second grinning from the back of a bird's wing, the next beaming while painting colours unbelievable in the sunset sky—Madam Muse. Now, she comes calling? Just when I'm getting somewhere in the game of pick-up sticks



Portrait painting by Oleg Shupliak

around the yard. I've given up fretting over how the creative process works, in *me* at least. It's enough to know that the roller-coaster ride will take me to the clouds, and then swoop me down to inspect the texture of dried cow muck. It's pointless railing against what I cannot change. Being a creative animal can be a weird blessing, but I'd rather have it, than not. Welcome to the fun park, and sorry about the absent newsletter.

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

Artist of the Month

The 'mini' exhibitions continue throughout the year. Although the featured artist does not always benefit from sales, it is certainly a worthwhile promotional activity, for both the artist and the Gallery. It's a delight to see bodies of work by individual artists, inspiring for members as well as visitors to the Gallery.



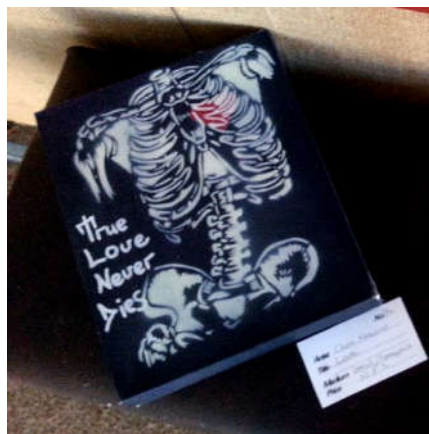
Narelle Gill closed 2017 in December with her wonderfully executed work.



First up for 2018 in January was Collin Tenney's work, his range of styles drawing plenty of interest. (This painting took out Best Acrylic at Peshurst Art Show.)



February showcased South Australian member, Janette Ireland, in a range of paintings and more abstract collages.



In March, we saw work by one of our younger members, Chris Niewand. Wonderful and different mediums!



April (this month), Julie Kent takes the spotlight. A prolific artist, she challenges our assumptions with several pieces different from what we generally expect.



OPPORTUNITIES

MAY

John Shaw Neilson Art Prize

(Acquisitive) Prize \$8,000

CLOSES: 2018—Fri 11th, 4 pm

CONTACT: Jenn for form, or www.artsfestival.com.au/competitions/john-shaw-neilson-art-prize

JUNE

Clarice Beckett Art Award Entry Forms from Gorman's Art Gallery

Casterton Kelpie Art Prize
Entries CLOSE: 18th May, 2018

CONTACT: Jenn for emailed form, or print off from artsatlassw.com.au/opportunities/casterton-kelpie-association-acquisitive-art-prize/

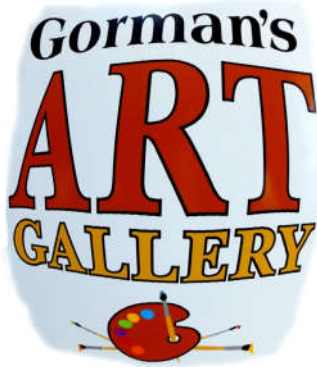
JULY

Coleraine Art & Photography Show

Entries CLOSE usually late July

Exhibition: 10th August, 2018
Contact: coleraineartphotoshow@gmail.com

UP NEXT: Jo Taylor in May
Questions or concerns about the 'Artist of the Month' mini solo exhibitions, please contact Suzie McKenzie on 0437 445 135



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

NEWS

The 'Clarice' ~ and other things to note

THE CLARICE BECKETT ART AWARD 2018

CHANGES IN PRIZES AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Prizes

The total value of prizes awarded this year has been increased to \$1,000.

The **Overall Winner** of the Clarice Beckett Art Award stays the same—\$700, personal trophy, certificate and recognition on the perpetual trophy.

A further prize of \$200 will be awarded to a work, as chosen by the judge, for the **Glad Laslett Patron's Award.**

A heartfelt thank you to our Life Member, Glad Laslett for initiating this prize and supporting the arts in a meaningful way, and adding an extra incentive for those entering the Award.

People's Choice will be in two parts, a \$50 voucher from Casterton Farm Supplies, and a further \$50 cash/cheque.

Number of Entries

This year, each artist will be permitted three (3) entries.

The reasons?

- ◆ Funds and time spent on mail-outs of entry forms (professionally printed) were not beneficial, i.e. not drawing substantial entries.
- ◆ Entries were down in 2017, compared to previous years, for some unknown reason.

NOTE: There are also a couple of changes regarding delivery of entry forms and the actual artwork.

Please make sure you read the Terms and Conditions.

EXCHANGE WITH RED TAIL GALLERY:

This was a wonderful experience for both galleries. Not many sales, but the swap gave artists an expanded arena, with work shown at the respective venues, and gave visitors to both Edenhope and Casterton a new focus. We will do it again!

PENSHURST ART SHOW:

In its second year, the show attracted entries from several of our members, with an excellent result. Our artists took out three First in Section Prizes, as well as two Highly Commended. Woohoo! The show will be an annual event.

NEXT MEETING 2018

General Meetings
Third Thursday every three months

17th May

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

As well as General Business, arrangements for 'The Clarice' show and weekend will be finalised.

*Your input is valued
Please attend if at all possible*

Members Wanted...

Enjoy a couple of hours of social interaction in Casterton
Selling Raffle Tickets

Our raffle is an integral part of promoting the Gallery and *Clarice Beckett Art Award*, and our **ONLY** fundraising endeavour for the year.

There are two great prizes!

Please consider helping out by sitting over the next few weeks.

Leave a note expressing your availability at the Gallery for Collin, or give him a call on 5581 2559



Out of the box...and in the zone!