



NEWSLETTER

No 10. Term 2. July to December 2021

Kurrajong Way, Mayday Hills Village. Beechworth 3747
www.maydayhillsartsociety.com

Greetings to all! We are pleased to bring you our latest newsletter that covers activities during Term 2. Enclosed are details about more wonderful Art talks, and Café Scientifique afternoons, monthly films in our Upstairs Playhouse as well as the offer of art workshops for members and non-members of the Society. We hope you can take part in some of these activities that are planned and, hopefully, will be held in this COVID world of ours.

We are delighted to report that all the studios are currently occupied. We have some wonderful new faces with loads of talent. Welcome to Darren, Chris, Karen and Kay. In this edition we are featuring the work of Darren Gladstone who is now resident in one of our upstairs spaces. The Society is now officially incorporated. During this half of the year much effort will be put into permanently securing our building so that we will have the security to always be able to bring you a safe, peaceful location for all members and your creativity. Go well.

EXHIBITIONS

Winterwords art exhibition

A happy crowd attended the inaugural *Winterwords* art exhibition, that was opened on Wednesday 16 June in the downstairs gallery at the Art Society. On display for the week were original and contemporary artworks; including a hand carved wooden puppet, digital photographic prints and photographs, a Chinese brush painting, solargraphs, collages and sculptures and mixed media paintings...with each featuring beautiful and thought inspiring words in some unique way. Thank you to all who contributed.



Collections from the Asylum

Take the opportunity to look through this permanent photographic exhibition that is on show in the hallway of the downstairs floor of the Society. The exhibition has been provided by Dr Jenni Munday and her co-researchers at Charles Sturt University. *Collections* showcases personal stories associated with the Beechworth Asylum, including tragic stories of five WWI soldiers who subsequently became patients at the hospital. We hope this exhibition is our way of showing respect for the former residents and staff.



SPECIAL VISITS



Maroondah Photographic Society

We were delighted to welcome members of the Maroondah Photographic Society on Saturday 24 April. The group visited Beechworth for a weekend of photo opportunities around the northeast. Thank you to Claire Mitchell who provided a collection of her wonderful nature photographs to grace the gallery for the afternoon tea and tour. We received the letter below from Yvonne Menegol:

'I would just like to say a big thank you. Not only was our stay at The Gatehouse just perfect for our group but it was unanimously agreed upon about how good our visit to the Art Society was. I think we were all blown away by the awesome set up you have there and of course the work that went into getting it to what it is today. We all felt like VIPs and you all made us feel so welcome. I would love to think that if you have any ideas as to how we could collaborate together in the future, the committee would be very open and welcoming to ideas. Also, a big thank you for entrusting us with your albums of archive material. Many of us spent some considerable time flicking through them, particularly the old photos which were very interesting. Our weekend away has been declared a massive success and we sincerely thank you for your part in making this happen'. Yvonne



Maroondah Photographic Society. North Ringwood Community House. 35-39 Tortice Drive. Ringwood North. Victoria 3134. www.mpsocietyvisualpursuits-au.com

EVENTS @ MDHAS

HAPPY HOURS AND ART TALKS

We will continue to hold our Happy Hours and Art talks again this term. They provide a way for members and their guests to meet and mingle and for us to learn from many creative professionals and to hear of their wonderful stories. Please bring a gold coin donation. Contributions towards nibbles or wine are always gratefully accepted.

Please make a note of the following events in your diaries. You will be advised by email of any cancellation due to COVID restrictions:

Friday 2 July 5.30pm

Stories of ecological truth and beauty on camera with filmmaker Stephen Curtain



Stephen is a natural sciences and ecology cinematographer (BEd Environmental Science). He started his film career at the BBC Natural History Unit and has 20+ years as an outdoors and environmental science teacher, lecturer and journalist. He has worked as an expedition, polar and field-safety guide in Antarctica, Japan's Hokkaido, Russia's Kamchatka and Australia's Alps and Top End; experiences that provided Stephen with glimpses into the Earth's exquisite natural systems, their inhabitants and their interconnectedness. Stephen's focus is to communicate the basics of ecology from a planetary scale, through to the everyday and to the microscopic beneath our feet. www.stephencurtain.com and <https://www.regenerate-earth.org/>

Friday 3 September 5.30pm

Art talk with calligrapher, designer and tutor Marta Lett

Marta is an artist, designer and tutor specialising in hand crafted lettering design, Celtic art, drawing, painting and mixed media works on paper, canvas and glassware, as well as printmaking and pyrography. Through studying calligraphy Marta discovered the beauty of working with watercolour gouache and pigment inks as well as raised gold leaf on rag papers, parchments and vellum. She mixes her Celtic heritage with traditional design elements intertwined with zoomorphic Australian flora and fauna. According to Marta 'the continuous interconnecting pathways in Celtic design are symbolic of our human interconnectedness with nature and our need to care for the Earth'. www.martalett.com



HAPPY HOURS AND ART TALKS *(continued)*

Friday 5 November 5.30pm

Keeping the magic going round...the magic of mandalas with Karen Scott



Karen Scott is a mandala painter who runs an established art therapy and self discovery business. She holds art therapy classes and retreats in Melbourne, Europe and Asia. Karen met Gary, her husband, in Northern India. They married and settled in the Dandenongs and have continued to travel far and wide, exploring and experiencing places that contain mandalas. They share the magic of mandalas through thousands of works of art, hundreds of workshops, numerous exhibitions, train the trainer programs and in publishing and writing a book on the journey of mandalas. www.mandalamagic.com.au



CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE

The Art Society is the only Australian member of the worldwide organisation Café Scientifique. The Café is a place where, over a cup of tea or coffee, anyone can come to hear an informal talk about science and technology, to discuss and debate. The first Café Scientifiques were held in Leeds in 1998. From there they have spread around the world. The following Café Scientifique talks will be held at MDHAS this term. Come along and join us for a special afternoon tea and an enjoyable and stimulating time. Gold coin entry.

Sunday 8 August 3.00pm

Ramblings of a Zoologist with Dr Renata Bali

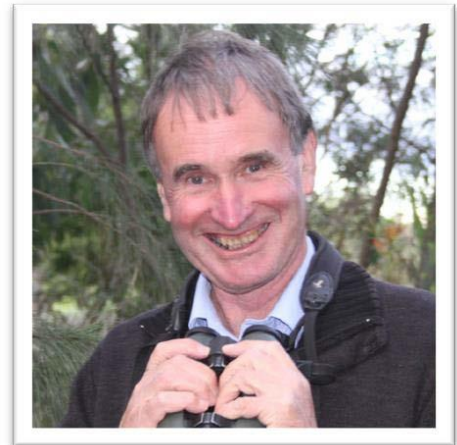


Dr Renata Bali was born in Vancouver BC in Canada. As an undergraduate she published a scientific paper on snails before landing her first job as a zoologist on the tar sands of northern Alberta. She came to Australia in 1979 to begin her PhD research on the behavioural ecology of grey kangaroos. She has travelled extensively throughout Asia in search of exotic animals, including six months in Java researching leaf monkeys and two years in India investigating the effects of ecotourism on tigers. After an environmental consulting career spanning over 40 years, Renata now spends most of her time helping local communities to fight inappropriate development, providing expert scientific advice and working as an environmental planner.

Sunday 3 October 3.00pm

Bird surveys and what they can tell us: windows on the world with Dr Richard Loyn

Richard is an ecologist with special interests in forests, fire, wetlands, threatened species, conservation and sustainable development. In 2013 he established a consultancy (Eco Insights), conducting strategic projects for clients in Australia and occasionally overseas (for example, Papua New Guinea). He was awarded the D.L. Serventy Medal in 2014 and a senior doctorate (DSc) by the University of Melbourne in 2019, for a thesis on forest management and biodiversity conservation. He was appointed as an adjunct professor at La Trobe University in 2020. Richard recognises that birds and other wildlife provide a unique window on the natural world, and can help us conserve its extraordinary diversity, in partnership with local people.



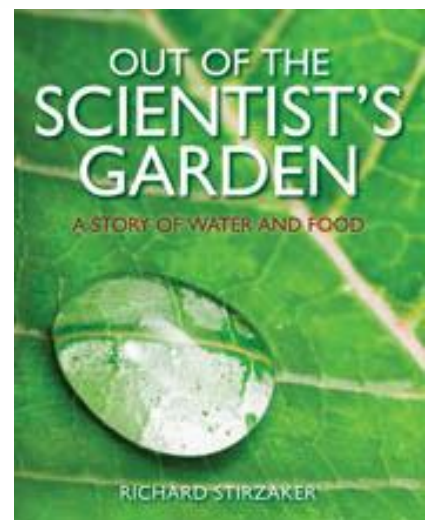
Sunday 5 December 3.00pm

Out of the scientist's garden with Dr Richard Stirzaker



Richard is a Principal Research Scientist with CSIRO Agriculture and Food, based in Canberra. His mission is to apply transdisciplinary science in the context of agricultural development. Richard did his PhD in soil science and his research has revolved around water use of farming systems at paddock and catchment scales. Currently Richard is applying his knowledge of soil and irrigation science to the particular problems faced by small-scale farmers in developing countries. He says – ‘the garden is the lens through which we can explore how the world can manage water and feed itself’.

Richard published the highly acclaimed *Out of the Scientist's Garden* in 2010. It is written for anyone who wants to understand food and water a little better - for those growing vegetables in a garden, food in a subsistence plot or crops on vast irrigated plains. It is also for anyone who has never grown anything before but has wondered how we will feed a growing population in a world of shrinking resources.



**Discover how the 'big picture' can be applied at home and learn how to be a more successful – and scientific – productive gardener.* Jerry Coleby-Williams, Park Watch, June 2010.

**Richard gives every beginner and experienced gardener an appreciation for the earth beneath our feet.* Reader's Feast, 2010.



WORKSHOPS

TERM 2 ART WORKSHOPS

Art on textiles

with Christine Cansfield-Smith

Saturday 4 September

\$80 non-members, \$60 members

Bookings essential. Christine 0412 126 219

bibart@bigpond.com

Materials provided. Information on enrolment.

Enjoy a creative day painting textiles that can be used as additions to quilts, clothing or as a framed picture. Students will be provided with beautiful botanical and bird patterns on cotton and linen that will be used for the painting surface. Own designs optional. Christine will demonstrate with acrylics and fabric medium. Fabric and equipment provided.

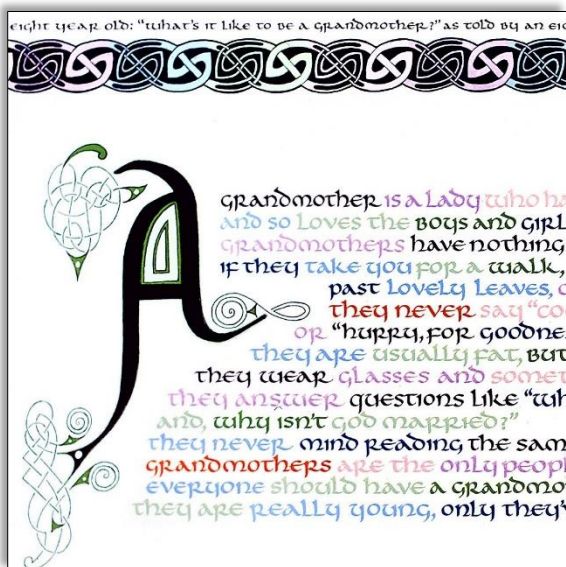


Uncial calligraphy and Celtic knots

with Marta Lett

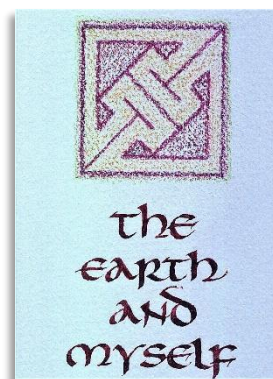
Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 October

\$180 non-members, \$160 members



Bookings essential. Christine 0412 126 219

Day 1 of this weekend workshop is all about Uncial calligraphy, taking you step-by-step through the techniques of writing beautiful, rounded letterforms. A lovely script to pen your favourite quotes, or special messages to a loved one. These modern Uncial letterforms are based on 5th century Christian manuscripts. Day 2 you will learn Celtic Knots and Step Pattern designs to decorate your Uncial calligraphy. Using simple formulae Marta will show you how to draw your own designs and how colour changes the simplest design into a work of art. You will finish the weekend with a small piece of calligraphy decorated with a beautiful Celtic design.



FILMS @ THE PLAYHOUSE

One of the benefits of joining the Mayday Hills Art Society is automatic membership to the MDHAS Film Club. The Art Society operates a non-commercial theatre and is a member of the Federation of Victorian Film Societies. This means that members can attend any screening free of charge and bring one guest.

Screenings will now take place on **SUNDAY AFTERNOONS**. What better time than this to enjoy a great film while having afternoon tea. Tea, coffee and ice creams will be available for purchase. Following are the fabulous films on offer this term. See you upstairs at the Playhouse Theatre.



SUNDAY JULY 18 @ 3.00pm

Penguin Bloom is a drama film directed by Glendyn Ivin and is based on the book by Cameron Bloom and Bradley Trevor Greive. Oscar nominee Naomi Watts stars with Andrew Lincoln and Jacki Weaver in this heartfelt drama based on a true story. Samantha Bloom breaks her back in an accident and is paralysed from the chest down. A year later, her children bring home an injured magpie they have found. She cautiously approaches the magpie and begins to get acquainted with the new family member. In doing so Naomi begins to live life again.

Released: January 2021 by Roadshow Films. It was an Australian box office hit on its opening weekend.

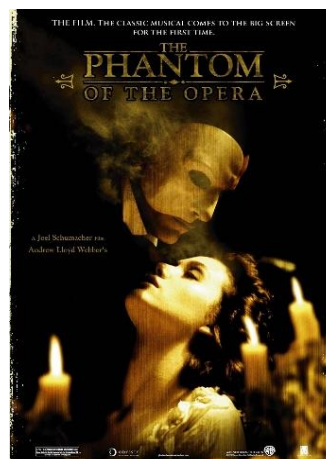
SUNDAY 15 AUGUST



My house in Umbria (2003)
Starring Dame Maggie Smith as Mrs Emily Delahunty, a British romance novelist living in Italy. Filmed on location in Tuscany and Rome. Comedy/drama.

The Phantom of the Opera (2004)
This musical romantic drama film stars Gerard Butler and Emmy Rossum. It was directed by Joel Schumacher and produced by Andrew Lloyd Webber.

SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER



SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER



Sylvia (2003)
Sylvia is a British biographical drama directed by Christine Jeffs and starring Gwyneth Paltrow, Daniel Craig, Jared Harris and Michael Gambon. It tells a story based on the real-life romance between prominent poets Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes. It begins with their meeting in 1956 in Cambridge.

SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER

Save the date! A special BUSHFIRE conference is being planned for October/ This afternoon event will feature films and an address by Ian Dicker, National Parks and Wildlife Service Fire Team Leader. Art Society members will be notified by email of details.

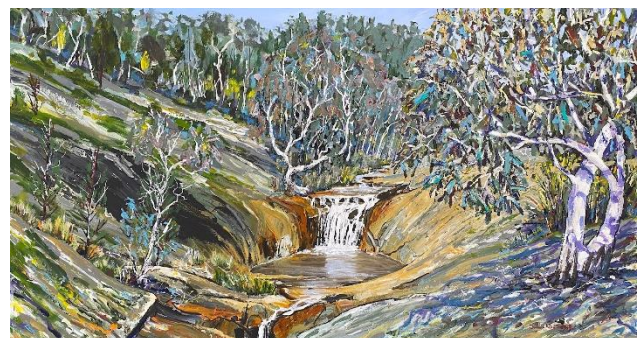
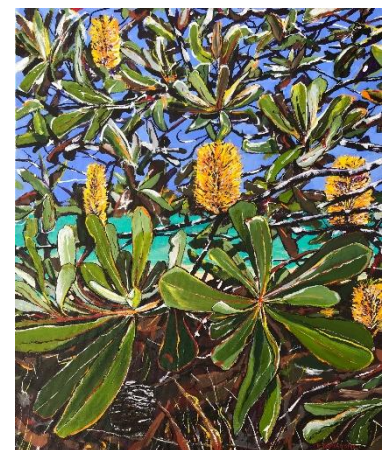
PEOPLE PROFILE

Darren Gladstone

We are delighted to feature Darren Gladstone, one of the new members of the Society and a studio tenant at Mayday. Darren is a local artist, born in Beechworth where he lived near Ingram’s Rock. He has a degree in Illustration and Design from RMIT. For many years Darren was a tram driver in Melbourne before moving to East Gippsland to become a remote forest fire fighter. He is drawn to bold, natural landscapes, such as the vast ocean and coastlines of East Gippsland where he spent several years, as well as the rugged granite and flora of northeast Victoria, where he now lives. His colourful landscapes have been in several exhibitions and public spaces, particularly in Gippsland. According to Darren:

‘This area (northeast) is timeless and yet always changing with the seasons. It is so exciting to try to capture this along with communicating what I see and feel. I hope that somehow my absolute joy of being in the natural world is translated onto the canvas’.

Darren’s vivid and expressive landscapes are created on canvas with acrylic and he describes his style as, *‘unique, emotive and impressionistic. Painting not to replicate, but to provoke an emotion or memory in the viewer’.* We know you will enjoy a selection of his beautiful work:





EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL LOCAL ARTISTS!

The beautiful ArtScape Cottage on Malakoff Road is a peaceful and unique retreat for visitors to Beechworth. The cottage has a selection of musical instruments for guests as well as the works of local artists that are on display and available for purchase. All artists are invited to exhibit their work in the cottage. **No commission charged on sales.**
Contact Claire 0455 290 011.



OUT AND ABOUT



EXHIBITION INVITATION

North East Artisans Inc., based in Benalla extends an opportunity to artists to enter their bi-annual **PORTRAIT PRIZE EXHIBITION**.
Major prize \$1000; People's Choice Award \$500
Youth Award \$100

Entries close Saturday 17 July

Contact: Jarita Stubbs, Exhibition & Events Co-ordinator
North East Artisans Inc.
0447 442 809
Jarita_stubbs@bigpond.com

Mayday Hills Art Society Board of management

Chair/Manager – Christine Cansfield-Smith 0412 126 219 bibart@bigpond.com
Treasurer – Bob Richards. Dr David Lawrence, Dr Jenni Munday, Peter Leppert