

SASI is a vibrant group of diverse artists who support the arts in the Somerset Region of South East Queensland. We encourage artists to promote and showcase their work and come together to share knowledge and ideas. We have workshops, art focused trips and other events throughout the year.

From the editor

I hope you all missed the October newsletter! Unfortunately, I broke my laptop and from then until I got a new system up and running, I missed any chance to get a newsletter out.

But here it is again, for your entertainment and information.

Next newsletter will come out in February, when we have hit the ground running towards Somerset Art Awards 2017.

Meanwhile, we will keep the website up to date with details of what's on at Glen Rock Gallery, some photos of the Christmas Party and anything else we might think interesting.

Enjoy the Christmas break and have a great New Year.

Hetty

President's Ponderings

It's happened again! The year has slipped by, not unnoticed, as much has happened, but the end always seems to come too fast.

We said farewell to Susan during the year and it was very sad as she was a great friend to us and inspired us all. I really look forward though, to presenting the **inaugural Susan Cory Art Prize** at the 2017 Somerset Art Awards.

Planning has already started for the Awards and we have engaged [LeAnne Vincent](#) as manager/curator to ensure a professional presentation. This is to further enhance the

popular and successful event that it has proved to be.

It will be on the **16/17/18 June** in the Civic Centre. Save the date! The 17th will be wild as the extremely popular Esk Garden Fair will also happen in Pipeliner Park, plus other events around town. Line up your family and friends now!

Glen Rock Gallery is looking great with various art forms by Jill Maxworthy, Matiese Jones and Susan. There are items perfect for Christmas gifts and will be followed by another quality display by Glen Rock Stitchers. See page 3.

Come in during the break in January to check out [Olga Carolan's](#) vibrant emotive works.

We had a lot of fun on the November First Monday at my place playing with clay to create Christmas decorations. These will be fired and returned to the artists to finish decorating with acrylics and whatever.



Please note **NO FIRST MONDAY** in December and January. We'll resume in February and I hope that at the next **General Meeting on Wednesday, 9th February**, we can brainstorm ideas for these get togethers and prepare a calendar of events for the year.

Have a think about hosting one of the First Mondays and any other suggestions you might like to bring to the meeting.

Phil will contact members who are interested in a **photography outing** for 21st November, depending on the weather. If you are interested and haven't been out before, contact Phil on 0488 736 663. Numbers are limited.

Jan Stolberg, our treasurer, has resigned due to personal reasons. Thank you Jan for all you have done for us and we wish you the very best. We look forward to seeing you at our events during the coming year.

Rosemary Stirling put up her hand for the position and was voted in at our general meeting. Thank-you Rosemary. You are already assisting the committee and we look forward to your input in this new capacity.

Current members have been emailed with details about our Christmas Party. If you didn't receive the email, you may not be on our list, so please contact [Rosemary](#) to check your membership. We don't want to lose you!

I'm really looking forward to seeing you there. It's a great time to relax and catch up.

Have a happy Christmas!

Janine

From the Management Committee:

President: [Jan Godfrey](#), 0400 256 324 Vice-President: [Sue White](#), 0407 072 926 Secretary: [Allyson Kirton](#), 0410 699 004
Treasurer: [Rosemary Stirling](#), 0417 074 504. News Editor: [Hetty van Boven](#) 5424 1502/0427 936 467

What's on...

- **Saturday November 19: Christmas Craft Market, Anglican Hall, Esk 8.30 am -3 pm.** Beautiful, quality items at give-away prices. Be early to snap up the best of the best.
- **Also on Saturday November 19: Life Drawing in Fernvale.** You can still book in, \$25, contact [Sue White](#) (details on the bottom of page 1)
- **Sunday November 20: [Jam- in in Esk - Open Mic](#) Somerset Civic Centre.** From 12 md \$5 entry.
- **November 24: Change over Glen Rock Gallery:** new artists: [Glen Rock Stitches](#)
- **December 3:** SASI Christmas Lunch. Details to members
- **December 4:** [Esk Community Choir Christmas Concert.](#)
- **December 29: Change over Glen Rock Gallery:** new artist Olga Carolan. Olga's work on the right.
- **February 9: General Meeting Glen Rock Gallery**
- **June 16-17-18, Somerset Art Awards 2017**



Some photographs of Public Art in Quebec, Canada by Jan Godfrey



Wishing all our members, their families and friends a fantastic Christmas and a very happy, healthy, prosperous and creative 2017.

See you at our Christmas Party or in the New Year.

*Jan Godfrey, Sue White, Allyson Kirton, Rosemary Stirling,
Hetty van Boven*

Glen Rock Gallery November: Eclectic Art

This month at Glen Rock Gallery Esk, Somerset Art Society Inc. presents the works of three very different artists.

Jill Maxworthy

An Eclectic Artist, whose style is best described as “Stylistic Realism”.

Her first love is clay and in ‘Estranged’, black wire has been threaded through holes in the sides of this hand built bowl, turning it into an intriguing 3D art work in the natural colours of the clay. (Photo below)

When she moves to her continuing experimentation with using glass in her glazes, she creates objects with incredible vibrancy and colour depth, such as the in “Blue Glass” dish and “Red Bird Bath.”

“Washing Day”, a painting in Acrylic, shows the sense of humour she often brings to her art.



Jill says: “I love the feeling of expectation and apprehension when firing the first stage (bisque); waiting for a ‘POP’ when something has exploded and then having to wait 2-3 days before opening the kiln. The disasters are relegated to my garden where the lizards love to hide under the remnants.”

Jill has been painting with Acrylics since retiring to Esk. Watercolours are a relatively new medium for her, but used with great skill in her ‘Gums’ pieces. (Photo below)



Susan Cory

Works by the late Susan Cory have been generously donated by Susan’s family to benefit Somerset Art Society Inc.



Matiese Jones

The exhibition also shows some interesting works by Matiese Jones, a year 12 student who just completed her school based trainee ship at the Esk Information Centre with the Somerset Regional Council.

Her strong, high contrast, piped acrylic painting: “Life of Hopeful Life” is the opposite to the delicate lantern-like lamps, the painting on the opaque paper coming to life when the lights are switched on.

The exhibition will continue until November 25.



Next at Glen Rock Gallery:

Glen Rock Stitches: till 29th December.
Always beautifully made items at give-away prices. Great for Christmas presents.

Olga Carolan 29th December - 26th January 2017

First Mondays: October and November

November First Monday: making Christmas Decorations at Jan's.

Of course, we started with a delicious morning tea with excellent coffee, but after that Jan cleared the table, brought out her clay and gave us a crash course in the use and characteristics of this natural medium.

We were surprised how clean it was to use, we had imagined it being like mud, but it was soft and pliable and didn't stick to our fingers at all.

Next she showed us how to make Christmas decorations.

Some of us cheated and used cookie cutters to make stars, others created beautiful 3D objects, including what looked like a piggie, looking so happy, it obviously had no idea of what happens to piggies in the lead up to Christmas!

Always generous, Jan supplied us with the clay and will fire our creations in her kiln in time for the Christmas Party on 3rd December.

Thank you Jan!



October First Monday: Photographing your art with Phil Lister

First Monday for October had resident photographer and SASI member Phil Lister give a hands on demonstration on how to correctly photograph artwork with simple techniques anyone can do.

It doesn't matter whether you have a big expensive camera, a point and shoot, or even a mobile phone as the methods Phil discussed are applicable regardless of what you are using.

Make sure your art piece is evenly lit.

The key things to be careful about are firstly, to make sure your art piece is evenly lit. Phil used a light meter to demonstrate how light can vary across the surface of a painting. Diffuse window light is a great start. *Do not use flash.* (see below).

Face camera correctly

Secondly, making sure the camera is facing the painting as close to 90° as possible eliminates distortion in the image.

Use tripod and self-timer

Thirdly, placing your camera on a tripod to keep it steady is one of the best things you can do, as well as using the self-timer to trigger the shutter instead of using your finger to press the shutter button. Both help reduce camera shake making the photograph as sharp as possible.

To reduce lens distortion, use a lens focal length of 70 mm or more if possible. A 50 mm lens is OK, but nothing less as the lens can then create what is commonly called barrel distortion.

Phil had his camera connected to his laptop so photos taken could be seen on the computer screen straight away, and using this he showed us how easily distortion can be introduced and how easy it is to create bright spots on a painting by using a camera flash incorrectly. Phil suggested to not use a flash, but rather use bright diffuse window light and never direct sunlight.

Diffuser boxes for 3D art

Phil also made 2 diffuser boxes for photographing 3-D pieces, costing less than \$5. Made from cardboard boxes with the sides and top cut out and covered with tissue paper, the art piece is placed on a curved piece of white card inside the box to create an even background, and LED lights used to shine light through the tissue paper. This creates even, diffused light reducing harsh shadows.



Boxes are held by SASI for the use by members.

Thank you Phil for another wonderfully informative and useful session.