Aileen Gough and Karen Armstrong, participated as first time entrants in the Sheffield International Mural Fest.
President’s Palette

As usual it’s always hard to believe that half the year has passed already. The good thing is that there is still plenty to look forward to in the world of LAS: exhibitions; workshops; opportunities to catch up with other members and very importantly, this is the year of Launceston Art Society’s 125th Anniversary.

A grand affair in the form of a cocktail party will be a major feature of our Anniversary celebrations.

Enclosed in this edition of Art Beat is your invitation to attend this special event. Lots of interesting people will be there, making it a great opportunity to mingle and meet with other artists and art lovers. Official guests include Her Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, Kate Warner who will open proceedings. Your presence will help make this a really special time for celebrating your connection with the proud history of Launceston Art Society.

The Cocktail Party is the official launch of our own historical LAS exhibition. It will be held in Gallery 2, a wonderful space for viewing artworks. The paintings will be exhibited over the ensuing period of 22 weeks - a very generous period afforded LAS by Director Richard Mulvaney and his team. Works on display will encompass LAS members’ paintings dating from 1891 through to work by selected present day members. Works will not be for sale at this exhibition. However, LAS members will have ample opportunity for exhibiting works for sale at the ensuing exhibition at Eskleigh.

It could be considered timely that this is also the year that historic Eskleigh Home and home base to LAS, can lay claim to having had a lift installed that meets with Heritage regulations. This obviously opens Eskleigh up to those with disability and makes life considerably easier when heavy, awkward items need transporting upstairs. Exhibitions re-commence at Eskleigh with Elevated Rooms in early June. Celebrating Life at Holy Trinity is only weeks away and Country Club’s Meandering are all on the agenda. Following these is our significant 125 Year Anniversary Eskleigh exhibition scheduled for late November.

Workshops continue to attract well-recognized artists from near and far. Already this year we have had a great time learning from John Lovett and Paul Margoczy. As we speak, Gerry Jensen will be concluding her pastel and mixed media workshop, to be followed by botanical, marine life and animal artist Mali Moir. Details of Mali’s workshop and others are in this issue of Art Beat.

Although it is only three months since the AGM and committee elections, unfortunately we have already had to accept three committee resignations! One was due to ill health; another to time constraints and the third was a call from the ‘grey nomads’. The committee was particularly sorry to bid farewell to John Doyle. John has been a very valued committee member for several years. A quiet achiever, he is always quick to offer assistance in a wide variety of areas, including Artists in Action, even coercing his wife to help here!

He was Excursions Coordinator and also served as barman at all our functions. On many occasions he was the ‘brute force’ when it came to the heavy work. Fortunately, John will continue his membership and has offered his assistance when and where he is able.

We are also fortunate to have Karen Armstrong join the team as Workshop Coordinator. Karen’s previous employment history as a secretary has equipped her with lots of experience in the field. Already she has lined up some great artists for tutoring workshops. Karen will officially take over her role after she returns from overseas in early July.

Congratulations must go to LAS members Aileen Gough and Karen Armstrong, who did themselves proud at the recent Sheffield Mural Fest. Karen and Aileen were finalists who worked as a team over the period, producing a wonderful mural. Their work created a lot of interest - they seemed to generate a constant audience, with many spectators asking all sorts of questions related to their artwork.

Both Aileen and Karen also took every opportunity to promote LAS. This is the sort of pro-active support that we really appreciate - putting LAS “out there”.

Although October is still a few months away, I feel I must acknowledge the huge amount of work already undertaken by the 125th Anniversary Advisory Committee. This sub-committee was appointed towards the end of 2015 and is being chaired by Life Member Louise Skabo. As is sometimes the case, people are often quite unaware of just how much work goes on behind the scenes, when an event is being organized. Louise and her committee are flat-out-busy with the event at the QVMAG. So when it all does eventuate, we hope you will be there to support LAS and enjoy the fruits of the advisory committee’s labour, not to mention that of the other LAS members involved.

The committee and I would like to thank you for your ongoing support. We love what we do as volunteers for LAS and feel rewarded when our efforts yield results.

Carolyn
Members Memos

Memo 1  MEMBERSHIP CARD
Your new membership card for the year 31/5/2016 to 31/5/2017 is included in this edition of Artbeat. The LAS Membership Card entitles you to a discount of up to 10% on purchases made at the following businesses -

- Philcam 57 Invermay Road Invermay
- Whitelaws Gallery Picture Framing 53 Brisbane Street Launceston
- Framesavers Gallery and Framing 218 Wellington Street Launceston
- Pauline Winwood Photography and Art www.paulinewinwoodphotography.com.au
- Ray Pethick Graphic Design info@raypethick.com.au
- Pearts Variety Store 181 Charles Street Launceston

Other businesses may give you a discount if you mention that you are a member of the LAS.

Memo 2  ROSTER FOR ESKLEIGH
The LAS Gallery at Eskleigh is reopening at the beginning of June. Great news! A roster of members to sit at Eskleigh for the period Friday 3 June to Sunday 17 July has been sent to the members whose names are on the roster. If you have received the roster please check the date you are rostered on and if you cannot attend that day try to swap with another member on the roster. Please notify me if you swap.

Memo 3  VOLUNTEERS REGISTER.
The committee is putting together a Register of Members who would be like to volunteer for art sessions in Aged Care Facilities, Schools and Eskleigh. We currently undertake art sessions at Eskleigh, Glenara Lakes and Giant Steps and Meander Valley schools during the Meandering Art Exhibition. If we have sufficient members we may be able to extend the number of places we visit. If you are interested in participating in this rewarding voluntary work please contact me by email-internetters@gmail.com or phone 0439 114 944

Members News

ART BRUSH HOLDER
After the Paul Margocsy Workshop, Karen Armstrong asked her husband to make a stand for her brushes out of wood. Pictured left is the result. He will make one for you too, if you like. Just give him a call - Robert Armstrong, mobile 0417 745 815.

The stand will cost $15 for LAS Members.

AILEEN AND KAREN PAINT THE WALLS
In the last week of March this year two of our members, Aileen Gough and Karen Armstrong, participated as first time entrants in the Sheffield International Mural Fest. They were part of a field of nine competing for the prestige (and significant prize money) of winning the Sheffield Mural Fest. The theme this year was Reflections of Time – inspired by a poem by Karen Oborn, Aileen and Karen interpreted this with a look at past Sheffield and a ‘future ball’ set up in the right hand corner (see image). Although not winning the major prize, Aileen and Karen had a wonderful time in Sheffield for the 7 days.

Well done ladies for having the courage to ‘give it a go’! We are delighted that you waved the flag for the LAS and advertised for us in a most positive way.

Congratulations to Phil Austen for his Highly Commended award at the Glamorgan Spring Bay Art Award and to Lynne Hutchins for 2nd prize at the Apex Art & Photography Exhibition at Latrobe.

Farewell to Richard Kleckock and his wife Val as they have moved to far north Queensland.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,
Not only was I thrilled at receiving a Life Membership Award from Launceston Art Society at the AGM in February this year for work I have happily done for the Society over the last 14 years, but I truly appreciated the generous words which you, Pauline, and Eva Mehegan put into the speech and presentation.
The native flowers (knowing my love for the Native Plant Society) and the beautiful little clock were much appreciated. However, despite excellent research there were a couple of points I would like to correct. Firstly, although I am a good friend of Harvey and Suzanne Cathill, it was Margaret Baker, who knew Harvey well through previous employment, who approached and succeeded in getting Harvey to be our excellent new Patron in 2008. Secondly, I would like to give credit to Phillip Austen for his contributions to the Australian Business Arts Foundation Partnership Awards presentation as well as help from Mandy MacDonald of Eskleigh.

It was a wonderful achievement for LAS winning not only the State but the National Award because of our work with the residents with disabilities at Eskleigh Home and our supportive partnership with the Eskleigh Foundation. It is a great asset for Launceston Art Society Inc. having the historic Eskleigh as our home and art gallery and a continuing pleasure to do art with the people at Eskleigh Home.

With thanks, Louise
We're Back...

ON THE WALLS at ESKLEIGH- ELEVATED ROOMS
Works by The Monday Painting Group, Lynne Hutchins, Jack James, Trudy Humphries and Darren Meader and four new works from the LAS collection - OVER 100 WORKS.
OPENING: SATURDAY JUNE 4th at 2pm. Join us and test the lift.
The exhibition will close on Sunday July 17th at 4pm.

DÉJÀ VU/ MEMBER’S RETROSPECTIVE?
Any interest in exhibiting up to four works which may have been shown with LAS before and maybe not as recent as our Conditions of Entry specify? Our 125th exhibition at QVMAG is a retrospective but largely for works of artists throughout our history.
Would you enjoy exhibiting an early piece of your work and a current work? (Your earlier work may be a piece that would not be for sale).
Works could be delivered on Monday 18th July.
Opening: Saturday 23rd July.

Please Phone Carlene 6327 3799 / 0419 341 847
or email carlene.bullock@gmail.com IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR HAVE A BETTER SUGGESTION.

CELEBRATING LIFE - HOLY TRINITY
ENTRIES CLOSE ON FRIDAY JULY 15th. NO late entries accepted.
Standard LAS entry form, ONE or TWO works. $5 Hanging Fee per painting.

Holy Trinity Religious Art Award - for a piece of work, not necessarily a painting, but suitable for display in the church. This work should represent an aspect of the Christian faith.
The Greg Waddle Memorial Award sponsored by LAS.
The 6ty° Degrees $1,000 Acquisitive Award.

Awards for Junior Members
PLEASE REMEMBER TO INDICATE ON YOUR ENTRY FORM AT LEAST TWO OCCASIONS WHEN YOU ARE AVAILABLE TO GALLERY SIT. We must have at least TWO members in the church at all times. If you are unable to gallery sit please ask a friend or a member of the committee to assist as unless you do, your work will not be hung.
Sitting times are 10am to 1pm and 1pm to 4pm Monday to Saturday and 1pm to 4pm on Sunday. Please phone Carlene or Lynne if this creates a difficulty.

DELIVERY OF WORK TUESDAY 26th July between 1:30pm and 3pm ONLY.
OPENING FRIDAY 29th July 6:30pm to 9pm.
CHURCH SERVICE SUNDAY 31st July.
COLLECTION of WORK FRIDAY AUGUST 12th AFTER 3pm.

MEANDERING 2016
Theme - Vital Signs.
Entry Forms available in July.
This year the hanging space at CCT will be less than previously so the exhibition will be selective. The prizes for this exhibition are significant so we expect only your best work to be submitted.
Please consider the theme carefully when planning your painting and ensure that your artist’s statement helps to illustrate the connection.
Consider volunteering for Artist in Schools as this is a very important part of Meandering.
The Launceston Art Society Inc. has a Lease/Contract with Eskleigh Foundation which includes a reciprocal agreement to undertake Art Therapy Sessions with the residents of Eskleigh Home. This is the eighth year of our Society doing these art classes and we have quite a few wonderful members who have been volunteering every year. This year, it was wonderful to see some new members volunteer their time and efforts. LAS thank all these members who assist the people at Eskleigh and appreciate the innovative and enjoyable projects they devise.

Art sessions encourage the residents to not only gain personal satisfaction from doing art but they also extend their skills including cooperation and interaction with their fellow residents. None of our present volunteers have any training in this field but all do a marvellous job with our “Eskleigh Residents’ Art Group”.

Although it is an obligation of our Society, it is no burden but a pleasure, as the residents at Eskleigh Home are so lovely and it is pleasing to help this small group gain satisfaction and a feeling of attainment through creating art or crafts. They also enjoy seeing new faces and talking to people of the northern community. Our Society displays the best of the Residents’ art each year at the Tasmanian Art Award in October and many are sold - one of the few outlets for the residents to boost their self-esteem. This art display also reinforces to the hundreds of visitors that it is for the residents’ benefit that the TAA is held to raise extra funds and shows the community one way in which LAS contribute to Eskleigh.

This year, Louise has done about six sessions with the residents where the group sketched seagulls and used blue/green watercolour backgrounds for contrast with the white birds. During the other three classes the residents first practised drawing triangles and other sail and boat shapes before placing these on boards ready for painting yachts with acrylic the next week. We used masking fluid for the sails and the participants had fun with this rather smelly, rubbery substance - especially later when it was time to unmask - they were amazed! As we painted, I explained how reflections go down into the water and the group enjoyed placing bright colours both on the sails and in the water below.

Elizabeth Smith, assisted by new member, Kerry Agius, did a superb job, here outlined by Elizabeth:

The class produced 2 paintings on A3 paper representing sky and earth, in contrasting colours. The first week they chose from blues/white or red/orange-yellow colours for the sky. At the next week’s hour session, the art group painted earth colours of green/yellow with touches of red/blue – they could also add hedges etc. Single left to right strokes were emphasized with no return so as not to flatten the texture. Ruler wide lines were drawn lengthwise for the sky and across-wise for the land paintings leaving a border all around and the strips were numbered. On the last day members arrived to find their paintings cut into the longer warp with the weft cut into short lengths. Some people needed help but everyone completed their under/over “darning” and they were all very pleased with the results. New member, Kerry, added: “The residents loved the actual painting process so much. It was wonderful to see them enjoying the time we spent with them.”

We still need about 4 members to volunteer to assist other members who have already volunteered to do art classes for one hour x 4 sessions during the months September to December. Please phone Louise Skabo on 6334 6787 or 0467 199 602 or rlskabo@gmail.com
Paul Margocsy's April Workshop

On a magnificent autumn-coloured weekend, a group of 16 artists met to learn the secrets divulged in ‘how to paint our feathered and furry friends’. What a delightful experience to learn from such an extraordinarily talented wildlife artist, Paul Margocsy, with his matching wit to keep us entertained all weekend long!

At first we were given insight into Paul's personal journey through art, and then on to learning his techniques. Sprinkled with Paul's humour, we were truly in stitches laughing between some moments of serious observation and contemplation. Of course it all seemed so straightforward and easy at first, but by Sunday, there were many furrowed brows, aiming to figure out, 'just how exactly he did that?'

Well, no matter, we all put in a great deal of concentration and mastered our own versions with Paul's never ending guidance. Afterwards, maybe there was a rush to buy those stiff bristled brushes to make the feathers 'just right' or maybe a few eager to get hold of an air brush to do those amazing backgrounds?

Paul, thank you! It was a wonderful weekend, you taught us your secrets, and we all truly aspired to absorb something from your talent!

Paul’s technique began with a light sketch, blocking over our bird or animal drawing with gum mastic. Air brushing the background, which looked relatively easy (only because Paul was firmly at the helm with the air brush) - might not have been so easy without his watchful eye! Along the way we learned about subject choices, composition, and handling the medium. We then peeled off the mastic and blocked in the colour, a slightly darker shade than the desired finished result. This was done with a water-based medium of choice, although Paul favoured marking pens and thick paint such as gouache. Now for the hard part - pushing around the paint to get the right tones and create feathers! This is where it got very tricky, and Paul was ever so helpful to us. His decades of developed skill were clearly obvious, and our feathering skills were definitely in fledgling stages! In the end, we all went home with our masterpieces; we had all learned an awful lot.

Gratitude also abounds for the wonderful hostess Gill Waddle, who produced the most mouth watering morning and afternoon teas, even gluten free alternatives - we were truly spoiled with her home cooked delicacies! Thank you Gill also, for providing the perfect venue at your Evandale Gallery; your efforts even to chop wood to keep us warm on Sunday were noticed and very much appreciated.

As a new-comer, I was truly thrilled to be able to participate in such a high standard workshop amongst many highly skilled participants. I’ll keep my head down and keep practising - not quite adding this feather to my cap just yet, there is still as always, plenty to learn!

Robyn Moon
“Firstly, I've not been to a painting workshop before. So after being on a wait list to participate in the John Lovett Mixed Media workshop, I cannot express how happy I am that I was able to attend such an informative workshop. It exceeded all my expectations! I've only recently started dabbling in creating watercolour illustrations – mainly using it for light washes, but I wanted to start branching out into landscape paintings. But how do you apply enough water and paint to work into a landscape and not ruin the paper?"

How are reflections created? How do you turn quite a plain reference picture into something of interest? All of these questions were answered and demonstrated in the two-day workshop.

John was so encouraging during the workshop. During his tutorials he'd talk through what he was thinking about, how he was planning the painting as he went, and what tools he was using.

At one point he purposefully made a mistake in his painting to show how you can correct errors. He would take plenty of time to come round and see all the students work and give positive feedback or helpful pointers while we worked through our paintings.

Honestly, three weeks later and I'm still inspired to paint!"

Beth Harvey
WATCH THIS SPACE!!

Wonderful Tasmanian Artists
SUZANNE HENNESSY
Collage Workshop -
August 27th & 28th

TONY SMIBERT
Oils Workshop

And from the mainland...
JOHN ORLANDO BURT
Workshop in Watercolours

Flyers for these exciting workshops will be sent out in due course - so please don’t forget to enrol for these classes as soon as possible, to secure your place!
Hope to see you there!

Mali Moir is coming to LAS for a workshop Friday & Saturday 8th & 9th July.

Melbourne born botanical, scientific and natural history artist, illustrator and teacher, Mali teaches a scientific approach to drawing pen and ink images of flora, animals, insects and marine life. She has won prestigious national awards and is highly acclaimed in London and New York. You can view her gallery at www.malimoir.com.au.

Mali is a very highly skilled artist & tutor, in great demand. Search the web and you will see just how diverse her art is and how beautifully she draws and paints! She exhibits widely in Australia and internationally.

Non-members are welcome to participate in this workshop.

Mali Moir

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

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WHEN Friday 8th July & Saturday 9th July 2016
9:00am set up for 9.30am start - 4.00pm finish
WHERE “Eskleigh”
Scone Drive Perth
COST Members $195
Non-members $225
Includes morning and afternoon tea
BYO Lunch

Please contact
Carolyn
M/ 0418 281 697 or
P/ 6328 1697
E/carayne@bigpond.com
for more information.
Phone 0407 552 578
Email: pjwinwoodphotography@hotmail.com
Web: www.paulinewinwoodphotography.com.au
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of the same advertisement paid in advance and 10% to financial members.
Payments to: The Treasurer, LAS, PO Box 1476, Launceston TAS. 7250

LAUNCESTON ART SOCIETY INC
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION [ ] RENEWAL [ ]
Annual subscriptions are due for payment each January

Name: (Mr/ Mrs/Ms/ Miss) ________________________
Address ____________________________________________ P/code ________________________
Phone ___________________________ Mobile ___________________________ Email ___________________________

Preferred Painting Medium Oils [ ] W/colour [ ] Pastel [ ]
Acrylic [ ] M/ Media [ ]

Other ___________________________

Style of Work: Contemporary [ ] Traditional [ ] Abstract [ ]
Other ___________________________

Do you wish to enter exhibitions?  Yes [ ] No [ ]

PLEASE TICK APPROPRIATE BOX

Full Membership  [ ] $35 per year
Membership includes copies of our quarterly newsletter Art Beat, join in
regular painting days, excursions and attend workshops, mini and
major. As a full member you are also invited to exhibit with other
artists at LAS exhibitions.

Friends of the Society  [ ] $15 per year
This is for those who may paint, but do not wish to exhibit their work
or participate in workshops, non painters, past painters or simply
those in our community with a love of art, who enjoy keeping in
touch with local artisans’ output.

Student Membership  [ ] $12 per year
Junior [ ] Age

Adult Full Time Student [ ]
photocopy of current student ID must accompany application
To encourage students of all ages to join in and experience
the joy of exhibiting with other artists.

Please complete this form & mail with cheque / money order to:
The Treasurer
Launceston Art Society Inc
PO Box 1476 Launceston 7250
OR This form can be completed online with payment made by Netbank