



## ***Society of Mountain Artists inc.***

Featuring the Works of Artists from the Blue Mountains in New South Wales, Australia

**May 2017**

# ***Newsletter***

**Issue No. 316**

**Mail P.O. Box 76 Wentworth Falls 2782——Email [secretary@mountainartists.org](mailto:secretary@mountainartists.org)**

**Monthly Meetings at Wentworth Falls School of Arts Great Western Hwy Wentworth Falls**

**Website / Gallery [www.mountainartists.org](http://www.mountainartists.org)**

### **Management Committee**

President	Peter Ayres	4758 9005	Committee Member	Heather Skarratt	4784 1746
Vice-President	Marie Morris	47871257	Committee Member	Lia Johnston	4782 4408
Secretary	Pat Carruthers	4758 7172	Committee Member	Shirley Williams	4759 2238
Treasurer	Ron Anderson	4757 2423	Committee Member	Fred Blakers	4751 6359
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Articles required by 2nd Monday of month

### ***President's Message***

The recent exhibition at Katoomba was a great credit to everyone concerned and the high standard of work and presentation made the most of the large space at our disposal. The final financials show that we made a respectable surplus after expenses and thanks to Ron Anderson for getting it all sorted out in spite of a family bereavement.

The first workshop of a planned series at St Andrews church hall in Wentworth Falls was fully subscribed and everyone had an enjoyable, albeit messy time experimenting with charcoal under Sanja's guidance. We take care trying to keep these affordable but each should make a small surplus for the SMA towards annual expenses.

The library ladies are going to sort through our books and dvd's over the next few months and cull out any which have not been borrowed for a long time. These will be offered for sale at bargain prices at our final 2017 meeting in November,.

Plein air excursions will finish for the winter at Annie Joseph's property at Bowenfells next Thursday and thereafter we will have trips to Barrangaroo and the revamped Coal Loader site at Waverton. Everyone is welcome to sketch on these trips but the primary focus will be social.

Today's demonstrator is Ray Harrington who we are pleased to welcome back but note the diary in your newsletter for the future programme through until September.

The Spring exhibition is our major show of the year and although it seems a long way off not too early to start on your entries now.

Thank you for your support

*Peter Ayres*

## Society of Mountain Artists Website Analytics for April 2017.

Website Sub-Committee each month undertakes the task of capturing a summary of SMA website usage statistics so as to report to the membership in each months Newsletter.

The Website Analytics picture for April 2017 was as follows:

There were **181 Users** over this period that had at least one session or visit. This figure includes new as well as returning Users.

There were **255 Sessions overall**. Sessions are the number of times a user is actively engaged with our website. They may for example, be a visitor looking at the On-line Gallery or Events.

Mobile and tablet traffic to our site made up **31% or 80 of the 255** sessions during this period.

The greatest number of sessions (27) on a single day in April was on the 10th just prior to the Autumn Exhibition commencing.

The SMA website had **113 New** visitor sessions or 62.4% of all users during April.

The visitor sessions included a total of **927 Page Views**, some of which were repeated views of a single page.

The average number of pages viewed during each session **was 3.6** which may have also included repeated views of a single page. The international average is > 2 page views.

The Average Session Duration i.e., the length of each session or time a visitor or user is engaged was **00:02:30** minutes.

Finally, the Bounce Rate which is where a visitor left the SMA site after landing on an entrance page but did not choose to interact with that page. The bounce rate in April **was 54%**. Generally speaking < 50% is what is acceptable internationally.

Although there are many possible factors influencing these statistics the Website Sub-Committee continues to monitor some of these underlying factors so that steps can be taken, going forward, to boost greater awareness and usage of the SMA website.

In the future this may include changes to the design and other functionality features of our website.

Monitoring and reporting on the monthly analytics over 2017 will also enable the Sub- Committee to provide meaningful comparative, year on year, data for the membership during the latter part of this year.

### *Jamison Award July Meeting*

Each year we hold the Award which is  
acquisitive judged by peer acclaim.  
The painting then becomes the Raffle  
Prize for the Spring Exhibition

**If you wish to take part bring a painting  
to the July meeting.**

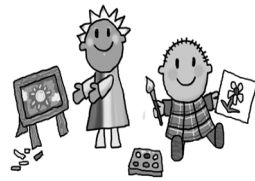
Members vote on which they think is the  
most suitable.

The Society will reimburse or pay for the  
cost of framing.

The painting may be any medium  
Must be the original work of the artist.  
Not a copy or done as part of a workshop

# Activities Diary

Management Committee Meeting 5th June 2017 1pm Wentworth falls Country Club  
Exhibition Sub-committee Meeting 5th June 10am Wentworth Falls Country Club

DATE	ACTIVITY	Location	Booking
May Thur 18th	Monthly Meeting Ray Harrington Demonstration Oil Painting	1.00 pm Wentworth Falls School of Arts	NO
May Thur 25th	Plein-air Painting Historic Buildings, Rural Escarpment Vistas	10am <b>Annie Joseph's property.</b> <b>Old Bathurst Road, South. Bowenfels</b> See map April Newsletter If you did not keep go to website	NO
June Thur 1st	Paint Together & Cuppa	10am <b>St. Andrews</b> Presbyterian Church Hall Falls Rd Wentworth Falls	\$5 cost
June Sat 3rd	Saturday Workshop Figure Drawing 10am—1pm David Newman White Continue with Adding Portraits 1pm—4pm Marlene Strathdee and Richard Grammer	<b>St. Andrews</b> Presbyterian Church Hall Falls Rd Wentworth Falls  Tea & Coffee Provided BYO Lunch 	Bookings May Meeting \$30 members \$40 non-members
June Thur 15th	Monthly Meeting Joe Cartwright Demonstration	1.00 pm Wentworth Falls School of Arts	NO
June Thur 22nd	Plein-air Painting / Trip Barangaroo Reserve	<b>See Page 6 for Details and Timetable</b> Sketching/photography	NO
July Thur 6th	Paint Together & Cuppa	10am <b>St. Andrews</b> Presbyterian Church Hall Falls Rd Wentworth Falls	\$5 cost
July Thur 20th	Monthly Meeting Owen Thompson	1.00 pm Wentworth Falls School of Arts <b>Jamison Award See Page 2</b>	NO
July Thur 27th	Plein-air Painting / Trip Waverton Coal Loader and Sustainability Centre	Details & Train Timetable in June Newsletter 10 minute walk from Waverton Station	NO
Aug Thur 17th	Monthly Meeting Roby Collier Demonstration	1.00 pm Wentworth Falls School of Arts	NO

## Exhibition Calendar

**Braemar Gallery**, Macquarie Rd, Springwood; Open

Thurs – Sunday 10 am til 4pm; Rachel Hannan 'wild thing' until 28 May  
Owen Thompson until 28 May

**Rex Livingston Gallery**, Katoomba St ; 'A life on the line' retrospective of artist/illustrator Fay Wilson May 19 until June 2

**Gallery one 88** Katoomba St [ closed Mondays]

Roland Hemmert 'In Hindsight' a retrospective until 28 May

'Off the Edge' Mount Victorian Artists until 21 May

**AGNSW, Sydney.;**

'Art Express 2017' until 23 April 'Adman; Warhol before pop'; until 28 May 'The National'; New Australian art ; starts 30 March until 16 July

**State Library , Macquarie St Sydney;** 'Under the Sun' reimagining Max Dupain [photographs ]

**Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor ;** 'Archibald Prize 2016 ' from 19 May until 2 July

**Australian Museum Sydney;** 'Transformations' art of the Scott sisters [ botanical /insect studies from Victorian times] until 25 June

**Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney** , Lion Gate Lodge; 'Botanica-in sickness and in health' until 28 May

**Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney** , Maiden Theatre; Margaret Flockton Award-scientific botanical illustration until 28 May

**SH Ervin gallery Observatory Hill Sydney.** Elizabeth Cummings 'Interior Landscapes ' opens 26 May until 23 July

**Royal Art Society** Lavender Bay Gallery; 'A Walk on the Wild Side' until 4 June

**Australian Watercolour Institute**, Juniper Hall , Oxford St , Paddington; 94<sup>TH</sup> Annual exhibition starts 9 June until 10 July

**Newcastle Art Gallery;** 'Abstraction'-celebrates Australian women abstract artists 20 May until 23 July

**Bathurst Regional Gallery;** 'Hill End '; seven decades of Hill End artist residencies until 27 May

**MCHUMOR.com** by T. McCracken



"Aren't any of these interactive?"

©T. McCracken mchumor.com

## Welcome New Members

Eleanor Whatmuff Wentworth Falls

Nina Lipscombe Mt. Victoria



### ***The Management Committee has decided to join the Combined Art Societies of Sydney (CASS)***

The Combined Art Societies of Sydney, or CASS, is run by a small group of dedicated and enthusiastic Art Society members who are passionate about furnishing the means for all artists to improve and showcase their work.

The wider Sydney Basin is home to many creative artists and the CASS Art Direct Open Studio Weekend is an opportunity to experience the inspired and unique work of the region's artists.

CASS member societies are located across the Sydney basin and include communities from the Central Coast to the leafy North Shore, from the Nepean to the coast at Randwick and south through the George's River area to Macarthur.

The artworks offered for sale during the CASS Art Direct weekend may be works on paper and painting, printing or sculpture, jewellery, pottery or glass. It may range from a small unique gift to a large investment artwork. There will also be the opportunity to commission special pieces. From the mountains to the coast the **CASS Art Direct Open Studio Weekend** offers a unique tour of local artists studios.

CASS aims to unite and strengthen the standing of art societies in our community and to encourage a standard of excellence among individual artists within our societies. The CASS at this time has thirteen member societies.

***The patron of the Combined Art Societies of Sydney is His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) The Governor of New South Wales.***

***Art Exhibition, Workshops, Gallery, Art In Action, Holiday House Kandos.***

**CASS ArtDirect** offers an opportunity to explore the culture and character of Sydney's communities from the Central Coast to the North Shore, from the Nepean to the Randwick and south through St George to the Macarthur area. CASS ArtDirect offers a unique opportunity to visit the art studios of your local artists in November [www.cassartdirect.com.au](http://www.cassartdirect.com.au)

'**CASS COTTAGE**' is situated in the beautiful Capertee Valley within the historic town of Kandos. The cottage provides accommodation only 3 hours from Sydney.

The sister townships and surrounding areas of Kandos and Rylestone provide an abundance of interesting activities – golf, bowls, fishing, canoeing, bird watching, photography and is an ideal location for artists to paint.

Within a short drive to Kandos you will find Mudgee with its famous wineries, and the historic mining towns of Sofala, Hill End and Gulgong. Other locations include Crudine, Turon Gates, Capertee Village, Lue, Glen Alice and Glen Davis.

Accommodates 7-8 persons. Opportunity for members to organise their own short Painting Escapes.

**[www.combinedartsocieties.com](http://www.combinedartsocieties.com)**

## Make Sure You keep for These Directions for Plein-air 22nd June

### Barangaroo Reserve

**Barangaroo Reserve** is Sydney's newest Harbour foreshore park – marking the transformation of one of the city's oldest industrial sites into a spectacular, six-hectare headland open space for Sydneysiders and visitors to embrace and enjoy.

Using innovative, industry-first technology, a concrete container terminal has been imaginatively reborn as a naturalistic rocky outcrop, sensitively landscaped with more than 75,000 native trees and shrubs.

As well as providing never-seen-before views of the city's iconic Harbour, Barangaroo Reserve features lookouts, extensive walking and cycling trails, idyllic coves, picnic spots and places for quiet contemplation.

The park also glories in unique rock pools created from the 10,000 blocks of honey-coloured sandstone excavated directly from the site during the project.

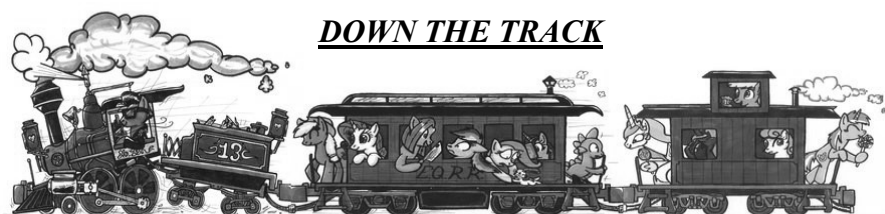
#### Circular Quay to Barangaroo Reserve

Walk past the Museum of Contemporary Art and turn left at Argyle Street. Then walk west through the Argyle Cut and past the Lord Nelson Hotel. Reserve via either Munns Place or Bettington St. This walk is approximately 1km and is fully accessible.

#### Train Timetable Second Carriage from Front ( Not Quiet Carriage so you can chat)

Mount Victoria 7.05   Katoomba 7.24   Wentworth Falls 7.34   Springwood 8.04   Central 9.24

Change for Waverton   Central 9.43   Waverton 9.58



#### DOWN THE TRACK

August Workshop   Pen & Wash   Dennis West

August 28th—1st Sep   Annual Holiday

Kiama / Bathurst ??????

September   Sale of Members unwanted art equipment, paintings, with all sale proceeds donated to SMA.

Unsold items must be taken home by Donor.

Expression of Interest will be available prior to sale

November   Library book sale and includes less used DVDs for sale at \$10 each.

#### Spring Exhibition

29th Sep-8th Oct

Leura Fairways 19-21 Fitzroy St. Leura

