

panorama

Official Newsletter of Brighton Art Society Inc.

Issue 303

FEBRUARY 2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I must begin with some sad news. For those of you who do not already know, our immediate past President, Stuart Hunter, died in early December, just prior to the end of our final 2015 term. His sudden death was a surprise and a shock to us all. Stuart had been unwell during the course of last year and as a result had been a less familiar face at the studio. He also chose not to submit any of his work to the annual exhibition, whilst assuring us that 2016 was looking much more promising. His house renovations incorporating his new studio were nearing completion and he intended to get back into painting with gusto.

His funeral service at the Anglican Church in Were Street, Brighton was at capacity – packed with his family and friends. Ann Black and Barbara and Fred Allen were able to attend.

Life goes on, nevertheless.

Welcome to the New Year. As January draws to a close, I trust you share my enthusiasm to get back into a regular program at the studio.

Whilst December and January are quieter months at the studio, there have been two January workshops held; Linda Robertson's Life Drawing, and Ev Hales' Watercolour Landscapes.

Rod Edelsten organised a series of untutored portrait and figure painting groups for those of us who, like me, feel deprived by the absence of our regular sessions during the summer break. Even with an absence of a few weeks, rustiness starts to take hold and a few sittings are needed to regain ease with one's paints or pencils. We were lucky however, to have some excellent models and the luxury of a four hour session on each day, gave us the opportunity to settle into our work. The pleasure, too, of being back amongst a friendly group of kindred spirits cannot be overvalued.

Lynton Daehli

ENROLMENTS & MEMBERSHIP FOR 2016

Enrolments are proceeding, and prior to the start of first term, we have about 45% of our 2015 BAS membership re-enrolled.

Groups 1, and 10 have reached their limit and a waiting list is made. Groups 2, 3, 4 and 7 are nearly at capacity, so it is important for you to contact me to arrange a suitable group.

The other groups, pastel, life drawing, mixed media are most interesting and rewarding, as are the untutored groups.

For new members or prospective members reading the newsletter on the website, I will monitor enrolments that come in by mail and e-mail., Enrolments will be processed in order of receipt, but members who pay fees electronically might have the bank transaction processed before I can confirm your enrolment.

Please pay your annual membership early if you are not enrolling for a tutored group, and remember that your municipal rates are due soon too.

Barbara (Class Coordinator) & Fred (m'shp) 0438 065 076

LINDA ROBERTSON'S CHARCOAL & PASTEL LIFE DRAWING WORKSHOP 7TH – 8TH JANUARY 2016

The workshop was spread over two days – a full day and a half day – with life models Lauren and Carmine, female and male respectively, and our statuette, Sandy. Linda dealt with drawing without constraint – her message was that freedom was more important than formula, and that shape was more important than dimension. The blank white drawing sheet could be the equivalent of "writers' block", and the "seven heads high" rule was confining.

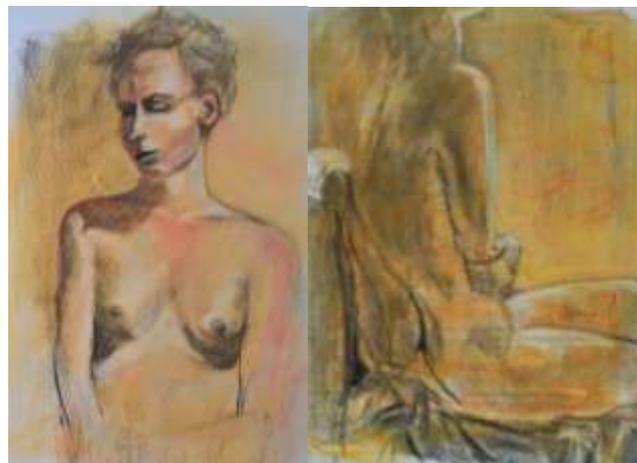


Linda demonstrates quickly over a scumbled background

Some of our works are reproduced, and it is delightful to see the response to Linda's tutelage.

They are free, some are inaccurate, some have bits missing, some are out of proportion.

Does it matter? Not at all! They're quick and lively.



Judy Lawrence

visitor Kay Everson

People are drawing 'sans frontieres' - or maybe inside a comfort zone they never realised they had!



Glenys Buzza



Di Woodgate



Lexi Cooper



Fred Allen



Fred Allen

Barbara Allen

Our two models, Lauren and Carmine, were able to hold marvellous poses. They had terrific definition that made it so easy to pick the lights from the darks, and the musculature really stood out.

EV HALES WATERCOLOUR LANDSCAPE WORKSHOP 19TH & 20TH JANUARY

Ev began by welcoming everybody, and asked each of us to tell her what we wanted to really find out about an aspect of a landscape. Some reactions were specific and some were general, but Ev noted all of them and began to plan her responses.

Importance should be given to the form of the subject, be it a tree, a rock, a mountain, or a valley. Nature can obscure parts of a landscape with mist or cloud or shadow, and as surely reveal the forms with passage of time.



Ev Hales applying preliminary washes.

Ev surprised us with the answer to a question that she asked: “**A bushfire – what do you see afterwards?**” Most of us responded with the usual, “black!”, “green sprouts and shoots”, “desolation” etc.

But what does a bushfire reveal?

It reveals the structure of the land beneath the undergrowth, hitherto unseen! For those of us who lived in a fire-ravaged area, we recalled all too well Ev’s answer!

Pine trees are different from eucalypts, poplars and scrub. Each species have branches and leaves that form different shapes.

Rocks have bulk and shape and they’re hard – they don’t forgive – no soft edges, unless they’re very distant.

Ev’s main messages were:

- Use transparent colours, not opaque ones
- Warm colours advance, cool ones recede
- Paint in the backgrounds, foregrounds after
- Light trunked trees can always be “lifted in”, providing you use non-staining colours
- A watercolour brush is not a pen, it can be used flat, sideways, dry, wet, or medium.
- Use a loaded brush for splatter
- Mix plenty of colour ready to use
- Don’t leave pools of paint on your paper – clean up!
- There are areas of high contrast – hard edges need dry paper – damp paper feels cool on the back of your hand
- Soft edges can require finesse – watch the moisture balance
- Use a water sprayer – keep the wet mood
- Don’t use a green in an underwash – it won’t lift



Joe Freidin and Richard Impey, Joy Lea at work



visitor Martini Quirk



Ev about to demonstrate 'lifting' to the group.

The mark of a good teacher is to involve everybody, and if there was something in anyone's work to be observed as a group, Ev gathered us around.

We had "show and tells" at the ends of each painting session and we learnt a great deal about the trials and triumphs of watercolour.

Thanks to Wendy Lawrence for organising both events.

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Im.past president	Graeme Crossley	9532 6101

Email your contributions to fall82995@bigpond.com

Dates to remember:

12 th December 2015	Term 4 ended
1 st February 2016	Term 1 begins
6 th February 2pm	Saturday untutored Portrait-Group begins