



panorama

Official Newsletter of Brighton Art Society Inc.

Issue 307

JUNE 2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members,

I trust the term break doesn't see you putting your brushes and pencils aside altogether. Also, don't forget the impending Ted Dansey watercolour demonstration at 2pm on Sunday June 19th.

I always find these artist demonstrations invaluable. Even within the time constraint of two hours, so much can be learnt from observing the process of an artist actually making the picture that is not available to us by simply looking at a finished work.

Seeing different artists working and along the way, commenting on their decision making, can encourage us to look more critically at our own processes and perhaps even try something fresh.

You will notice that Panorama is again rather brief this month. Fred Allen who has done such a sterling job as editor in recent years, in addition to his and Barbara's essential input of time and energy into Class Coordination and Membership, have decided that it is time for them to step back from their roles and allow younger members to enjoy giving service.

The Brighton Art Society is in my opinion, an invaluable community resource. The facilities and the activities it offers provide a great source of satisfaction and an opportunity for us to practice an activity we enjoy. In addition, it is a great place for rewarding social interactions and the pleasures of being amongst people who share our enthusiasm for art without question, in a way that is not always the case in the wider world.

Since joining the committee last year however, my eyes have been opened to just how much organisational effort is required behind the scenes to keep the group going and this is done on a voluntary basis by a fairly small number of our membership.

Over time, it is essential that we continue to bring new people on board to help with this organisational work. Our annual general meeting, when new committee members are elected, is not until November, so I will be drawing your attention to that again as the time approaches. I hope that more people will attend this time round than I have seen there in the past two years. In the interim, I encourage you to think seriously about the possibility of joining in with the committee and its activities. It is not only critical to keeping our group going, but the involvement is rewarding in itself.

At present, we are looking for someone who might be able to help with the production of Panorama following Fred's departure. It will require some computer and layout skills, though at present the basic set-up is held on file at the printers. An enthusiasm for taking a few photos to include or adding a little to the written content would also be valuable. But of course, all this is flexible.

I always enjoy reading Panorama and from the comments I receive, so do many of our members. Its exact form however is open to consideration. It may need to move to a simpler basic newsletter form or become a solely electronic publication.

The important function of advertising our sponsors who in return finance the prizes at our annual exhibition will remain, but what else it includes will depend on the enthusiasm and the choices of those preparing it.

I encourage you all to reflect on this and if you are interested in becoming involved in producing Panorama, please contact me or any of the committee members whose names appear on its back page.

Lynton Daehli

TRAVELLERS RETURNED

We need to say something to our fellow members. We went away in March intending to have a relaxing voyage, but in February Fred's surgery began to show a small problem on the surface, eventually requiring surgery again when we returned at the end of May. Current tests show that recovery is 99% assured, but both of us feel that maybe now's the time to step back, and let younger volunteers come forward. Meanwhile we will help where we can. We've done every job on BAS Committee at some stage over the past decade or more, and we've enjoyed every minute of it. It was never a chore.

We'd like to maybe go regularly to more untutored classes, and even devote time to create art in our own way – paint at home in the garden, maybe.

Barbara and Fred Allen

VALE - PAM GILBERT

It is with much regret that I advise members of the passing of PAM GILBERT.

Pam was a gifted water colourist who joined the Brighton Art Society in the very early days, around 1980 -1981 and was a participating member for many years, including a spell on the committee.

Pam painted for many years with Alan Rawady and exhibited with Brighton Art Society and Brighton Rotary. Her paintings of Brighton and of Italy and France were beautiful and she was very successful in selling them.

Long may she be remembered for her charming company and the beautiful desserts and cakes she brought to our Fireside Dinners.

Farewell Pam, we shall miss you!!

ANN BLACK

From the Editor

The Committee wanted to publicise the demonstration next Sunday, and intended to publish a mini – Panorama in the usual way with hard copy and e-mail, but the Monday holiday made this uncertain, so we've e-mailed as many as we can to 190 members, and we'll mail out 23 hard copies.

I feel I should say a few things about communication within BAS. There are routine things (changing only sometimes) like classes and tutors and enrolment dates, that can be covered on the website, on the notice board, and by direct mail. (Direct mail is no longer direct, by the way – no next-day-delivery it seems.)

There are non-routine things members ought to know such as Sunday demonstrations and intra-term workshops, social

events; and these can be covered on the website before, but the target is a different group. Workshops need an enrolment response, so that's different too. There are other things like the President's report, and doings within the Society, who's doing what, photographs, and dates to remember.

The BAS website, remember, is just a big notice board that is world-wide, but it's passive – you or anyone in the world has to access it. But it is responsive too, you can download an enrolment form for a workshop or a class if it's so set up. Thankfully, we have a BAS member who has assisted me by putting Panorama and enrolment pdf's monthly on the website.

An e-mail is just yours, and it's there like any letter in your box.

We have 210 members, including tutors, and 190 of them have e-mail addresses. Normally, about 100 of the 190 choose to receive communications by e-mail and our mail-outs are normally 120 or so.

Possibly, the committee need to rethink the way the Society does communicate, because we are now communicating differently compared to a decade ago. Australia Post and Telstra don't do things like they once did, because we don't either.

- Letters! Who gets letters? We only get 10 charitable institutions writing to us every week, and 100 Christmas cards once a year, and how-to-vote cards. I'm not of the hard copy direct mail fraternity any more, I'm afraid – it makes me seem old and out of date.
- The BAS website can contain all of the communications, routine and non-routine. Somebody has to put that information there, like once a month or in a timely fashion.
- Alternatively, the non-routine information can not only be put on the website, but it can be sent by e-mail to all or just some of the members.
- By whom? By one committee member on behalf of others, by the committee member wanting to publicise an event, or by the President.
- An e-mail address book is quite easily transferable, and almost all of the committee send and receive e-mails.
- I've enjoyed doing "Panorama", and I really appreciated those who e-mailed me or said to me, "another good edition". I loved watching others participate, and see their frustration and their joy when they achieved something – and to write about it!
- Time to move on – thank you!

Fred Allen

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Panorama		
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Historian	Lexi Cooper	9555 9316
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Im.past president	Graeme Crossley	9532 6101

Email your contributions to

Dates to remember:

This coming Sunday: June 19th , 2-4pm

Watercolour Demonstration by

Ted Dansey