

THE HALF DOZEN GROUP OF ARTISTS NEWSLETTER

**VOLUME 23, ISSUE 1.
FEBRUARY 2018.**

www.hdg-artists.com.au

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2018.

Thinking about what I would write in the Newsletter, I remembered an old Newsletter I had from October 1992. I have included it on the last page for you to marvel at ... one page, black and white and hand written/drawn and posted out by "snail mail".

When I first took over the Newsletter from Nereda Watkins in 2009, we had grown to two pages but we were still in black and white. Half the members had access to email. The other half still received theirs by post.

That seems like 100 years ago.

Now, the Newsletter is in colour and it has as many pages as it takes and we receive it immediately by email. How the last seven years have changed things.

Thanks to Chrissie for her efforts. She will still be looking after our Web Site which was started in October 2009 and our Facebook page which was started in 2015.

NEWS! NEWS! NEWS!

That's what it takes for the Newsletter to work so, if you have any news or photos, please contact me ... **Trevor Downes**,
tad@designbylook.com.au



The photograph above is a part of "The Paint Tree", a name given to an iconic stump which was in our previous "Studio" at St. Mary's Church Hall, Kangaroo Point.

Over the years, artists using the "Studio" disposed of their unused oil paint on this stump. "The Paint Tree" was carefully removed and now has pride of place at The Half Dozen Group of Artists Studio at Quarry Road, Sherwood.

It is a reminder of the many artists who have enjoyed membership of our group.

NOTICE!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

Date: Wednesday 14th. Feb. 2017

Time: 11.00 A.M

Venue: Your Studio/Gallery,
37 Quarry Road, Sherwood.

What to bring: A plate of "goodies" to share for the luncheon that will follow the formal proceedings.

**Please support your art
group and attend this
important meeting.**

**You must be a financial member
to vote at the AGM.**

MONKEY SEE ... MONKEY DO.

I enjoy looking at other artists work. There is always something to learn and it's all available at your finger-tips on the internet. Here are a few artists that I have watched. If you have some artists you like to look at send me an email and we can share the joy.

Copy the names below and paste them into the internet ... then check out the "IMAGES" or "VIDEOS".

LISA DARIA KENNEDY ... FLOWERS

<http://lisadaria.blogspot.com.au/>

I mark each day with a painting. After 3175 days (including Christmas) I've no intention of stopping. Painting, for me, is a physical act of being able to leave proof that I was there. USA.

SALVATORE GRECO ART ... LANDSCAPE

<https://www.facebook.com/Salvatoregreco.art>

With his name he has to be Spanish?

JOHN LARRIVA ART ... PORTRAITS

<https://www.facebook.com/LarrivaArt>

John Larriva is an artist and illustrator living in sunny central Florida, USA.

LENA RIVO ART ... PLEIN AIR

<https://www.facebook.com/lena.rivo>

Hi everyone! After a very long almost forced break from painting I am happy to be finally back to work. It is still summer in and last weekend I went to paint at my favourite painting location - Setubal. PORTUGAL .



**Solar panels being installed at our
Studio/Gallery.**

The job is finished with just the connections to be completed and then we will receive the financial benefit.

***Thanks to everyone who made
this possible.***

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NEW YEAR, NEW COMMITTEE, NEW LEASE.

Dear Members.

On 14th February, a new committee will be elected at our Annual General Meeting. This is therefore my last message to you as president.

Nominations have been received for all key roles on the new committee: **Mary Brown** for president, **Chris Matanovic** for secretary and **Pat Hunter** as treasurer. **Adele Dingle** will be taking over the workshop coordinator's role from Chris, and **Trevor Downes** has already taken over the newsletter editorship from her. Chris will continue to look after the website and social media, **Derek Johnstone** will be building manager and **Robby Elder** will continue as membership secretary.

The Half Dozen Group will have a strong and able committee, but it will still need the help and support of members, so please offer your help where and when you can.

The new committee will need to make an important decision very soon: whether to sign another four-year lease for the Quarry Road studio. The current lease expires in September. This needs careful consideration. While there are many advantages to staying at Quarry Road, there are also considerable obligations.

At the AGM, members will be given the opportunity to explore the issues, some of which are outlined below.

We lease the studio from Brisbane City Council. It is not a normal commercial lease. There are a number of organisations competing for premises, so we have to demonstrate our value to the community, financial viability, and our ability to maintain the building, while optimising its use. BCC monitors this regularly.

We pay a small rent, but we are also obliged to insure the building and pay for electricity, rates, water and sewerage.

We must also maintain the building to the value of not less than \$5,000 per year. All this totals at least \$12,100 per year (about \$230 per week).

I write "at least" because in the last three years, we have expended much more than this to bring the place up to a reasonable standard. Improvements, such as air-conditioning and lighting do not count towards Council's maintenance requirements, so their costs have been in addition.

This contrasts with the \$100 per week that we used to pay at Montrose. Some costs have been offset by government grants and rents from lettings, but nevertheless, our bank balance has reduced over the past four years from approximately \$49,000, to about \$38,000.

The new lease will require us to spend at least \$6,000 per year on maintenance. Other costs are likely to increase with inflation.

In addition to our financial obligations, considerable time and effort is needed to manage maintenance, cleaning, supplies,

improvements, grant applications, lettings, insurances, utility payments and mandatory tests. It is like running a small business.

So far, we have had members willing and able to take on these tasks and it looks like this will continue for the next year or so, but can we continue after that, and do we want to? Is it worth all the effort for not much more than four workshops a week?

If we were expanding in numbers, activities and budget, our current studio premises could be easily justified. The reality is that, despite considerable efforts, the trend is going the other way, as it is with many comparable organisations.

Of course, if we did not renew the lease, we would have to leave Quarry Road, with all its advantages, sacrifice all that we have worked so hard for, and look at other options.

When we had to leave our long-term home at St Mary's, Kangaroo Point, nearly a decade ago, we operated from a number of venues around the city, each workshop in a different one. It was not ideal in some respects, but it was simple. We just paid our rent and the rest of our efforts went towards our art. The varying locations added some convenience to members from different suburbs. Something like this might be an option if we were to leave Quarry Road.

There might be other possibilities, but, having been involved in our search for a home when we had to leave Montrose, I can say that we would be very unlikely to find suitable exclusive premises where we just paid a small rent, as we did at Montrose. Once we left Quarry Road, our chances of

obtaining another Council lease in the future might be slim.

So, there is a big decision to be made which affects all of us. Please think about this and bring your ideas and questions to the AGM. Thank you ...

David Pagendam
President – Studio Manager.

Art is not what you see, but what you make others see. Edgar Degas.



GRAFFITI ARTISTS AT LARGE

They should come for art lessons! This is worth a mention re awareness, vigilance etc., Our Mural was tagged (see photo) as well as the back of our studio. Barbara Ryan and I painted over the damage and it's now as good as new.

Cheers ... **Derek Johnston.**

LIBRARY CORNER

2018 is well under way.

Let's have a new surge of interest in reading this year – for learning or sheer pleasure. Hopefully, the new Committee will be as supportive as in 2017 and we will have a generous budget for the purchase of new books. So now is the time to write your request on the whiteboard in the Library. Happy reading coming up!

Wendy Allen.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

One year \$70.

Two years \$135.

There are two ways in which you can pay your fee for 2018:

Option 1: Direct Deposit

Account name: Half Dozen Group of Artists BSB: 484 799

A/c Number: 606007570

Please include your name and the word **"FEES"** in the Details for Recipient's Statement.

Option 2: Cash, Money Order or Cheque in an Envelope.

Please write **"Your Name"** and **"Annual Fees"** on the envelope and place in the locked letter box on the studio kitchen wall.

If you have any enquiries about membership, please contact HDGA Membership Secretary, Robena Elder.

robenaelder@hotmail.com

Please advise Robena if you have changed any of your contact details. Your prompt response will be hugely appreciated!

Note: *If you attend workshops before paying your membership, the non-member fee is applicable.*



BABY POSSUM VISITS STUDIO

Barbara Ryan (Monday Group) is caring for an abandoned ring tail possum and brought it to the studio on Thursday. **Very cute.**

Photos of your work are needed for our website.

Whilst the current slideshow on the home page of the website is a wonderful exhibition of members' work, it is now time to update it in order to reflect the CURRENT WORK of members.

Each slide in the new slide-show will contain BOTH the artist's name and the title of the work.

This is a great opportunity to advertise yourself and your art group at the same time.

As an example, see www.hdg-artists/gallery/artists work for last year's Lambert Wall.

If you would like to contribute, but prefer anonymity, that's fine too.

New Header for each page completed! Everyone who contributed to the 2017 Annual exhibition will see at least one of their artworks included in the new headers for each page on the new-look website. *Check it out!*

Therefore, as the majority of the most recently available photographs of finished artworks have already been used in the new page headers and Lambert Wall slideshow, photos of other works are needed to compile a new slideshow for the front page!

It would be great to receive photos from every member! Please submit photos by 1st March 2018, using any of the following methods:

1. By email to cjmatanovic@gmail.com or text mssg to Chris at 0412780055
2. Leave printed photo/s in an envelope in the Studio (addressed to Chris Matanovic)
3. Post photos to the ... HDGA, P.O. Box 303, Corinda, 4075.

All printed photos will be returned to their owners.

Lots of thanks, in advance, for your assistance with this project ... Chris.

BULIMBA LIBRARY



Following our display at the Sherwood Library some months ago I asked my Bulimba Library if they had space available.

The first available space was for December/January ... I booked it.

It was for the small display case right at the front door. A very good position and I have included a photo of my display above.

I attached business cards to the front of the cabinet for anyone to take for more information. You can't put prices on the work ... just contact details ... Library rules.

The Library Staff was very helpful. One purchased my Tasmanian Devil on the first day. (*See display cabinet*).

I have done a "sell" for the HDGA and Life Drawing and with some luck we might get a few inquiries for membership. **Trevor Downes.**



Pat Hunter tries out her new market tent at Robelle Domain, Springfield. In built lighting as well.



Contact the Committee.

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Website, Facebook and Newsletters.

Photos of members' work and news about member activities are always needed.

One of the benefits of being a member is the free publicity you can receive on the Website and Facebook, and among peers in the Newsletters ... so please feel free to advise Chris Matanovic of your successes! Thank you to those members who already do this - it's much appreciated!!

Consider adding your PROFILE to the Artists' Profiles section of the website - or update your existing profile with extra info or new photos

PLEASE, send Chris photo/photos of your work for the slideshow on the Home page of the website!

cjmatanovic@gmail.com;

Phone for SMS photos 0412780055.

Or leave hard copies in the Studio and let Chris know by email or phone that they are there. (All hard copies of photos will be returned).

NOTE RE COPYRIGHT

Your art group communicates in several ways, including this newsletter, Facebook and the website. You will note that we need photos of members and their work, for promotional purposes, and also to let members know what is happening in the workshops and events that they can't attend. If you do not wish to have your photo or photos of your work used for these purposes, please contact David Pagendam, President, HDGA.

**Just confirmed ... The 2018
ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION
has been booked at the
RICHARD RANDALL GALLERY
for June 22, 23, 24.**

*Every child is an artist. The problem
is how to remain an artist when we
grow up. Pablo Picasso.*

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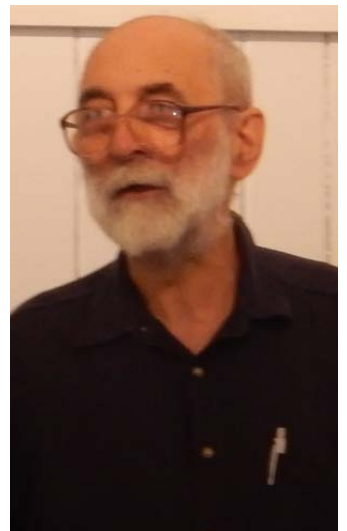
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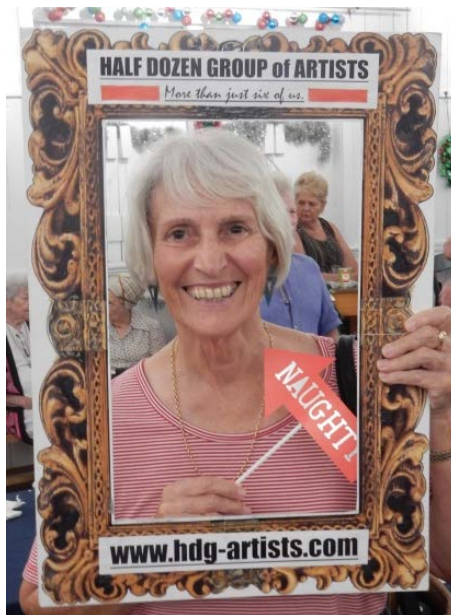
HDGA CHRISTMAS PARTY 13.12.2017



Thank you Kim Woolley and Wendy Allen for organising the event ... well done!

Members, family and friends came to join in a fun evening of socialising.

We started with the usual chit chat and a banquet of food that everyone had supplied and the drinks were on the house.



Trevor Downes had brought along the “FRAMES” we had used at the ART-IN-THE-PARK and everyone had their photo taken. This created a great atmosphere as Kim had “FUNNY” glasses and signs which added to the party fun and merriment.

Would you like to have a copy of your photo or any of the others?

Email Trevor tad@designbylook.com.au and he will email them to you.





The ART TRIVIA QUIZ by Wendy, Tim and Kim was a hoot. Above ... Heads down and below ... The Winners.





Twenty five years ago ... 1992 ... this was our Newsletter.

THE HALF DOZEN GROUP OF ARTISTS

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER .
1992

1 PAINTINGS FOLIO CRAFT WEEKEND; DATE 28 & 29 NOVEMBER ; ONE (1) FRAMED WORK PER MEMBER OR ASSOCIATE ; UP TO 20 WORKS IN A FOLIO (Each work should be numbered & labelled & priced, don't forget the painting. A list MUST be given to Jan Neilsen & included in the folio ; Deliver to Studio between 9am & 12 noon on 27 Nov. All works at OWNER'S RISK. An exciting opportunity to join in this trailblazing Exhibition.

2  CHRISTMAS PARTY : FROM 5 pm. FRIDAY 4th DECEMBER.
WHERE ? AT OUR STUDIO OF COURSE. BRING YOURSELF, LOVED ONES
FOOD AND DRINK : Tea & Coffee "on the house".

3  JUNE HEILBRONN was awarded a Highly Commended at the Redcliffe Art Soc. Spring Show Portrait Ex. Congrats.

Welcome to Sharon Gordon, Sarah Cunningham & June Heilbronn who throwing caution to the winds joined our Group. Recently.

4 WARANA : 12 Members took advantage of an Invitation to participate. Our masthead was displayed in an excellent venue. Alas the invitation came at the last moment ; we'll have more time next year, hopefully.

5 Confirmed Reports say that all had a ball at Maggie Thompson's Workshop.

6 WORKSHOP IRENE AMOS : STILL TIME TO SIGN UP...
OCT 31 AND NOV 1st : - CREATIVE PAINTING.
FEE \$50. ONLY.

DIARY DATES : FROM 10th OCTOBER :
27, 28, 29 NOV.
4 DEC.

† Laurie Dickason sincerely thanks, on behalf of Norma all who contacted him over Norma's departure. May Norma rest in peace.

Jan Neilsen.
Hon. Treasurer

9 Turquoise St.
HOLLAND PARK 4121

(349 4846)

Next Meeting 6 NOVEMBER.
See You there.

John Ivanac
Hon. Sec.

8 Cottesmore St. Fig
Tree Pocket 4069 (3780767)
(2 OCT 1992)

