

# HALF DOZEN GROUP OF ARTISTS

NEWSLETTER, VOLUME 22, ISSUE 5 WWW.HDG-ARTISTS.COM, OCTOBER 2017

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION - Please Read CAREFULLY

### THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Dear fellow Half Dozen Group members,

I would like to thank those members (about half of you) who replied to the recent on-line survey. There were some very clear results.

The majority of members reported being happy with activities offered by the Half Dozen Group, happy with its running and with the studio, and for most of us, the HDG is the main art group in our lives. That is good to know and not surprising. The Half Dozen Group has a lot going for it and we have an outstanding website and newsletter.

Members were overwhelmingly optimistic about the future of the HDG, believing that it will continue as it is, or even increase its range of activities and number of members. Those same members, though, with one exception, said they would not consider offering their services as president, secretary, treasurer, membership secretary or building supervisor, even if necessary to ensure the continued running of the group.

Therein lies a problem, and it is a big problem.

**In four months it will be time for our February Annual General Meeting. After that, I will no longer be president and Wendy Stevens will not to be secretary. If no-one is willing to take up these posts, the Half Dozen Group will cease to exist. That is the law. After a short time the group would be wound up and its assets distributed to another art group.**

This nearly happened last February when I reluctantly agreed to be president. I do not regret that: it has been mostly enjoyable and rewarding, and the committee has been a pleasure to work with, but let me say very clearly that I will not be doing that again. After a number of years in various roles, I will be taking a break from the Half Dozen Group.

The other big issue is that our wonderful studio is not guaranteed. We are currently in negotiation with Brisbane City Council for renewal of our lease, expiring in September next year. Whatever the outcome of those negotiations, the conditions will be at least as onerous as those of our current lease, which, among other things, requires us to spend \$5,000 per year on maintenance. After February, I will not be the building supervisor and so the HDG will need, in addition to a president and secretary, someone to take this role to ensure we meet our lease obligations. Otherwise, the HDG may need to seek alternative accommodation.

We have lost one third of our member numbers in the past five years. There are various reasons for this including sickness and death, sadly. Those of us left are getting older and many of us have played an active part in the running of the Half Dozen Group in the past and are no longer available. The committee has been working hard to attract new and active members to help run the group. There has been some success but this is a slow process and it needs the active support of all members. As part of this, we need to overcome the widely-held perception that, because of our name, we are an exclusive group of six.

The committee has been trying to shield you from these realities, but now it is time to give all members the opportunity to participate in the solution. I have heard some members say that something will turn up or that someone will put up their hand at the last minute, because that has always happened in the past. I do not think we should to rely on this. If we fail to plan, we plan to fail.

**So, what can be done?**

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## IMPORTANT CONT..

First of all, please consider taking on one of the roles that are about to become vacant, or part of the role (the committee is looking at how jobs could be split). It can be very rewarding and enjoyable. By starting the process now, training can be provided and you could be eased into the role. If you are not sure, please let me or another committee member know, and we will happily discuss with you what is involved, and what role might suit you, without any commitment on your part.

Please think whether someone you know might wish to take on one of these jobs. That person need not be an artist, just someone looking for rewarding activity working with a lovely bunch of creative people. There are at least two other local art groups where the president is not an artist, and it is working very well.

Lastly, please take an active role in seeking and encouraging new members at every opportunity and emphasise our open, friendly and egalitarian ethos. Take advantage of the new flyers that are available in the studio for distribution.

The Half Dozen Group of Artists belongs to all of us. Its future is in all of our hands.

Thank you.

*David Pagendam*

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## STUDIO NEWS

**The HDGA urgently needs a person to fill the position of STUDIO MANAGER in 2018.**

Please contact David Pagendam for details. If you, or someone you know, can fill this role, please let David know. The person does not have to be an artist - just someone who is willing and able.



The grant for **Solar Panels** has been approved. Upon receipt of the funds, the processes for installation on the studio roof will be commenced.



Wendy Allen in the kitchen

**23rd August 2017**

A small band of volunteers armed themselves with cleaning materials and “attacked” the job of sprucing up the studio in readiness for the Annual Exhibition. It was a job well done and of benefit to all, well beyond the exhibition dates. A huge thanks to those who helped.



Adele Dingle in the sitting room

# 2017 Art in The Park & Annual Exhibition



The 2017 **Art in the Park** was conducted on a lovely Spring day on Saturday 9th September.

Councillor Nicole Johnston officially opened the Art in the Park event and the Annual Exhibition.

Cr Johnston described the HDGA as being a very welcome feature of the district, praising the opportunities it offers the art community in general. She also expressed the hope that the HDGA would continue its presence, in its current location, for many years to come.

Visitors enjoyed sitting in the shade with their refreshments - coffee or cold drinks with wonderful cakes or sausage sandwiches! They also found lots to interest them in the various stalls which offered a wide range of fare, such as paintings, ceramics, hand-painted goods, plants, preserves, fashion bags, etc. The free "selfie" photo booth & portrait sketches were popular, as was the "hands on activities" for kids and parents.

Special thanks to the volunteers for all your hard work and enthusiasm, and also to Gemma and Dylan for the beautiful, musical entertainment over both days.

The **HDGA Annual Exhibition** was conducted at the Studio on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th September.

The general exhibition attracted 96 entries and the Lambert Wall 24 entries. 7 paintings were sold from the general Exhibition.

A People's Choice ballot was conducted and, all exhibitors were deemed winners, as a clear favourite couldn't be determined!

On both days volunteer Members wore a distinctive "uniform" - black top, red scarf or bandanna and a hat. The hat was a nod to our founding members, who always wore hats and gloves to events.

After the Exhibition closed on Sunday, an after party and clean-up were held. Many thanks to the members and friends who attended and contributed food, drinks and assistance - a great social occasion which was enjoyed by all present!

More photos are overleaf and even more will be on the website in the near future!

www.hdg-a.com



# Art in the Park & Annual Exhibition Cont..

## RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS



Donated by Mags Collier - Won by Gaye Stevenson



Donated by Trevor Downes - Won by Krystyna Naraniecki



Donated by Colin Watford - Won by Maxine Lohmeyer



Donated by Wendy Allen - Won by Pat Hunter

Many thanks Mags, Trevor, Colin and Wendy for your generous donations. It was great to have 4 happy winners!

(below) Henri C enjoying his Selfie!



## OTHER STUDIO NEWS



Thank you everyone who helps keep the studio clean and tidy ! This is just a routine reminder that it's important to make sure your workshop's rostered tasks are completed before you leave.

Below are some photos of Liz setting up the studio for her NIA moving to music class which is conducted at the studio every Monday at 5.30 pm.



## Important Dates

### NOVEMBER 2017

**Friday 10th:** Participation in **Sherwood Festival**. Many thanks to Trevor Downes, Linda Mezetti, Adele Dingle and Pat Hunter for volunteering to conduct/assist in conducting the stall this year. This is a great opportunity to promote the HDGA!

### DECEMBER 2017

**Saturday 2nd:** **BVAC Pop-up Shop** in the Auditorium at Mt Coot tha. The HDGA will NOT be conducting a stall on this occasion. However, members are very welcome to contact BVAC directly if they would like to hold their own stall at the event.

### DECEMBER 31ST 2017: ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

- ◇ Although Dec 31 is the due to for subscription renewal, please feel free to pay it anytime between now and that date. It may be easier to do it *before* the busyness and expenses of the festive season!
- ◇ New Members, joining between now and 31st December, are covered until 31.12.2018.
- ◇ It would be great if everyone renewed their membership by 31st December!
- ◇ Fees: \$70 for one year, \$135 for 2 years

#### Option 1: Direct Deposit

Account name: Half Dozen Group of Artists  
 BSB: 484 799  
 A/c Number: 606007570

Please include **Your name & the word Fees** in the Details for HDGA 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.



**DATE TO BE ADVISED**

**The HDGA Annual Christmas party and celebrations!**



## Important Dates Cont...

**2018**

**FEBRUARY**

**Date TBA: The Annual General Meeting**



## Library Report

OUR LIBRARY - *Movin' along* . Report By Wendy Allen

There are more books on shelves and more members borrowing so the Library is movin' along. For those folk who haven't borrowed books yet, side- step into the Library on your workshop days and whisk out a book or two. Sign it in on the Records Book beside the door. Books inform and inspire. Be in it!

**Regular subscriptions:** The Committee invested in four regular Art magazines this year so they are **hot off the press**.

These are being put on the shelf directly opposite the door. We can keep up to date with the rest of the Art world!

No more new books will be purchased for a while so we can concentrate on what we have and what we have not. **So now is the time to put in your orders for next year** - either particular books or general content books. Write your requests on the whiteboard in the Library.

### DONATION REQUESTS -

Does anyone have copies to donate of the biographical novels by Irving Stone?

'*Lust for Life*' about Vincent Van Gogh

'*The Agony and the Ecstasy*' about Michelangelo

## November is Promotion Month!



**Bring a friend to a workshop in November  
and they will receive their  
first workshop  
FREE!!**



Birthday Celebrations for Nereda at 13th Sept's workshop



Natasha & her Gran, & Louise



Greg & model Fiona

## Watercolour Workshops With Maria Field

Well known watercolour artist, Maria Field, conducted two consecutive workshops for the HDGA on Saturdays 5th & 12th August. The following is a report from attendee, Derek Johnston:

The Watercolour classes run over two weekends by Maria Field covered a variety of techniques; from basic to more complex, some of which were flat washes, graded washes, wet into wet, variegated and use of dry brush. Maria was always willing to answer any technical issues in a positive and clear manner.

From the best type of Watercolour paper to use and the different effects obtained by pigments and understanding the importance of recognising opaque and transparent colours.

The class was attended by some HDG members but the majority were from outside the group and it offered an opportunity to promote what HDG has to offer. Of particular interest was the technique known as pearling which allows for a strong use of positive and negative space.

Overall the workshop was a productive and positive experience and inspired return to Watercolour. Some of the exercises are at right.



## Pastel Workshops With Penelope Gilbert-Ng



On Saturdays 16th & 23rd September, Master Pastellist, Penelope Gilbert-Ng, conducted pastel workshops for the HDGA. The full house of students, on both days, enjoyed learning Penelope's method of underlaying the painting with watercolour prior to completing the painting with pastels. Some beautiful pieces of work were produced on both days of the course.



Penelope (above) with her finished demo painting of clouds



## Member News

### TOM MASON

Tom recently won First Prize in Photography in the Northern Rivers Bentley Art Awards with his photo of sheep shearing (right). He has also received Highly Commended awards for two of his paintings, in the Arttimes Ipswich Annual and the Somerset Art Awards respectively.

Congratulations Tom!



Above: "Capertee Valley Pastoral" . Highly Commended in the Somerset Art Awards



Left: 60cm x60 cm  
"Morning's Purple Haze"

HC in Arttime Ipswich Annual. Artists were given the canvas and a tube of paint (this one being purple).



### DONALD BLUE

Save the dates to attend Donald's new Exhibition:

ABOUT FACE will be conducted at the HDGA studio from 24th to 26th Nov and will feature Ink portraits.

There are sure to be many familiar faces on the walls!



### ABOUT FACE

Ink portraits by  
Donald Blue

24-26 Nov 2017  
HDG Studio Gallery  
37 Quarry Road, Sherwood  
Opening Friday 24 Nov. 6-9pm  
Saturday, Sunday 10-3pm  
0405-527-488

## Member News Cont..

### GLENISE CLELLAND

Congratulations! Glenise, on being selected in the finalists in the National Lyn McCrea Memorial Drawing Award, for your drawing "Peter Head - Whitsundays" .

The Exhibition will be at the Noosa Regional Gallery in October.

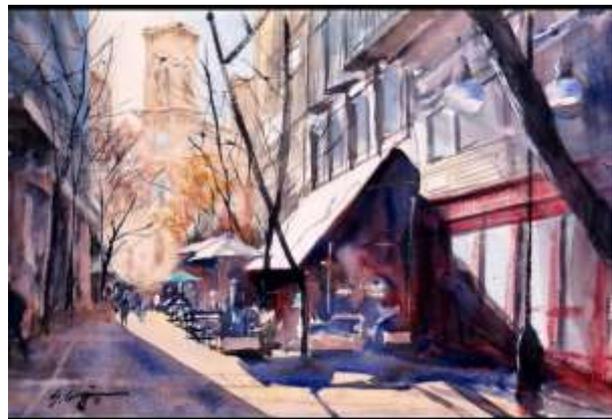


Glenise was also one of the artists participating in the Noosa Open Studios event in August this year.



Sof Georgiou continues to enjoy success with a First prize at the EKKA with his charcoal drawing (below) and a Third for his watercolour (at right) - also at the EKKA. Congratulations Sof!

### SOF GEORGIU



## Gallery



Louise Tonel



Wendy Stevens



Bev Haseler



Pat Hunter



Yoko Amada



Sue Victorsen

# Gallery Cont...

## Thursday workshops



The model—Geoff



John Kelly



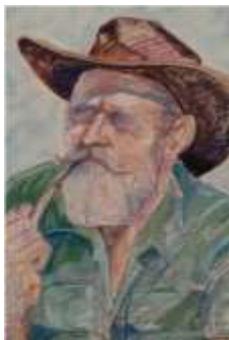
Ed Johnston



Trevor Downes



Irene McKean



Derek Johnston



Anne Schollum

## Monday Workshop 25/9



## Contact the Committee

<b>PRESIDENT &amp; Studio Manager</b>	<b>David Pagendam</b>	<b>0488 763 296</b>	<b>david.pagendam@live.com.au</b>
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<b>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY</b>	Robena Elder	0411 051 593	robenaelder@hotmail.com
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER</b>	Derek Johnston	0421202451	djdelboy286@gmail.com
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER</b>	Adele Dingle	0437 792 625	dingle1@bigpond.com
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER &amp; Workshop Coordinator, Newsletter &amp; Website</b>	Chris Matanovic	0412 780 055	cjmatanovic@gmail.com

## Website, Facebook and Newsletters

- ◆ Photos of member's 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 a photo/photos of work **for the slideshow on the Home page** of the website!
- ◆ Chris's email: [cjmatanovic@gmail.com](mailto: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.