

# Newsletter of GLENROY ART GROUP Inc

## Contacts:

Here are all the places that you can keep up with news and contacts:

**Facebook:** Glenroy Art Group

**Website:** [glenroyartgroup.com](http://glenroyartgroup.com)

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**President:** Sue Parry

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## Newsletter team

Jenny Lawther: Interviews, Work in progress photos. Editor for this edition.

Marija Newbold: Work in Progress photos

Sue Parry: photos, technical help

Jenny Lawther: Visiting Artist Report

## Thanks to:

- Moreland City Council for all their support
- Art House Direct Essendon
- Ausdart for their generous framing discounts to members

## A message from our President



Hi everyone,

Welcome back to 2021, wow what a year we had in 2020, one that I would not care to go through again.

During lockdown I personally started to grow vegetables and did an online art class with Janet Knight.

I watched other members painting or doing craft works that they hadn't done before. Others did gardening and other activities, walking around, exercising to fill in their days.

As we all said in our first meeting back, we are basically all well and still alive, a brilliant outcome for a pretty lousy year.

I would like to thank the outgoing committee. Because we couldn't meet for our AGM in August, they filled in for an extra 5 months and did a brilliant job during difficult circumstances. We all learnt more about technology and the new platform "Zoom" and I think we all did it very well.

We managed to have our AGM on 7th December 2020 in the hall next to our room. Thanks to Moreland Council for the assistance in completing a Covid plan which was necessary for us to be able to meet.

We elected new committee members:

**President** - Sue Parry (myself)

**Vice President** - Maureen Zmak

**Secretary** - Cornelia Conway

**Assistant Secretary (Minutes)** - Alice Lord

**Assistant Sec. (POM)** - Julieanne Beckham/Diane Schudmak

**Assistant Sec. (Media)** - Marija Newbold

**Member Registrar** - Jenny Lawther

**Almoner** - Beverley Graham

**Treasurer** - Wei Chun Lee

**Assistant Treasurer** - Paula Laino

**Programmes/Activities Officer** - Marija Newbold

**Librarian** - yet to be filled

**Newsletter Editor** - Julieanne Beckham

## Dates to remember:

### Changes to our opening times

- We are open for members to use the room on **Mondays and Wednesdays** between 10.30 am and 3pm
- We are open **Thursday nights** from 7.30 till 930 pm.
- **Our Saturday openings have changed.** We will now have use of the room on the first, third and fifth Saturday of the month from 10.30 until 3pm. Spinners and Weavers will use the room on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month.
- Please come along to any session that works for you and enjoy the heck out of our community of artists.
- First Monday of the month includes a general meeting.

## Upcoming workshops

- **Sat April 17th 11am-12pm**  
Spray painting demo with Tony (free)
- **Monday April 26th 11am**  
Watercolour abstract painting with Grazia Marin. *Materials list and costs to be announced*
- **Wednesday 19th May**  
Life drawing from 11 am with a break. Model Annie
- **Thursday night June 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Life drawing from 6.30 or 7. Anna from Pascoe Vale she does nights only.

## Art Show

- **Friday April 30-Sunday April 2nd.**
- Bump-in Friday at 12 noon
- Opening night is being planned, for the Friday night on the 30th. Hopefully we will be able to go ahead, although there may be some covid restrictions. Further updates closer to the date

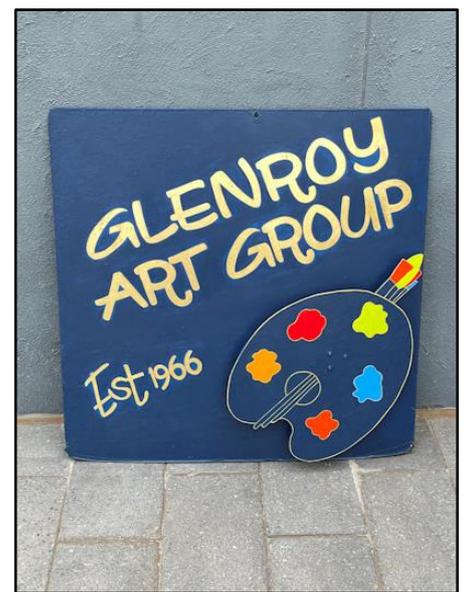
Get your art works ready! Cut-off date for list entries is April 19th (Actual work only needs to be finished week of the show). Works details to be emailed to Sue for inclusion in the show catalogue, i.e. your name, title of the work, medium, your contact details and the price. If you are not able to send electronically, place your written list in the clear folder which will be attached to the notice board.

Thank you everyone for volunteering to give of your precious time to help run the group.

We started meetings again as of the 1st of February. Anyone wanting to join us, you're welcome to come along!

Lastly, I would like to thank Jenny for the marvellous job she has done in updating our signs for the front of the building, they look absolutely fantastic, thank you so much Jen!

Sue



## Editor's note

Hello lovely Members,

It's so good to be back and to see each other again after so much time spent in lockdown. We may have further lockdowns but we are, finally, together again in person for now. In this issue we have a whole new team on our Committee, lovely plans ahead from our new Activities Officer, works in progress, and a blog post from Gordon Townsend on what, in his understanding, constitutes modern art.

Please send your contributions for future issues so we can enjoy each other via this newsletter too.

Love  
Julianne

### 'The seed is my muse' workshop



Ivy Turned 95 at our first meeting of the year, and her dear family turned up with flowers. Happy birthday Ivy!

## 'The Seed is My Muse'

### Workshop 18 March, 2021 with Thea Bates

Our first workshop for the year broke the pandemic drought. Seed pods were the inspiration of the day and Thea had a good collection. We were all intrigued to see how different the inside of a pine cone looked and all the other wonderfully shaped seeds.

We began with warm up exercises using our non-dominant hand and continuous line drawing – I should not have picked up a banksia pod for the latter, they are complex! We then started on the main exercise of the day which was to create an accordion booklet using watercolour paper, coloured inks, and twigs of various shapes and sizes for drawing. Some pink and greyish mauve Holcroft inks caught my eye – oh no, more things to feed my art materials addiction!

The results were colourful and bold and we all enjoyed exploring the mark making made with the different twigs. I expect many of us will be paying much more attention from now on to seed pods when we are out walking.  
*Jenny*

# Recent works



Cornelia Conway - Still Life Acrylic (Wed)



Marija Newbold - Floral Acrylic (Saturday)



Cornelia Conway - Abstract Landscape (Sat)



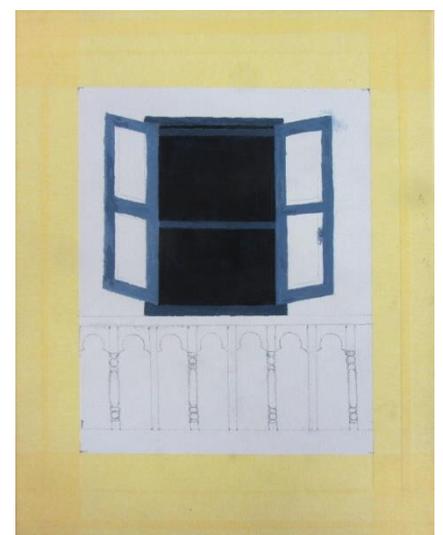
Julianne Beckham - Dream Journal, Mixed Media (Wed)



Sue Parry - Watercolour (Monday)



Sue Parry - Floral Watercolour (Wed)



Diane Schudmak - WIP Acrylic (Wed)



John Whittam - WIP Acrylic Portrait (Monday)

# Artists



Together again

# Artists at work



Carol helping a little visitor



Gordon creating in watercolour



John painting one of his acrylic portraits

## Tips, Tricks and Techniques

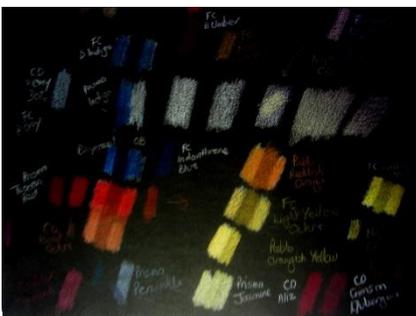
Jenny Lawther

### Coloured Pencil on Black

I was asked last week how to make the colours look better when using coloured pencil on black.

A black background deadens colours so it is important to:

- Test your colours first, both on their own and also with a white underlayer.
- First create a white underlayer on your artwork for lighter and brighter colours.



Note the difference in colours when they have a white underlayer – the ochres and yellows in particular.



WIP – creating the white layer

## Contemporary Paintings

By Gordon Townsend

Contemporary art, according to Wikipedia, is ‘art produced in the present period in time.’

In fact, contemporary art continues from post-modern art, which is itself a successor to modern art. It does not define subject matter. Many post and post-modern artists have painted biblical pictures. The only qualification by some art galleries is that the painting was painted in the lifetime of the artist, and some galleries and dealers specify that it must have been painted in the last ten years. So, in reality, any painting done in the last 10 years is contemporary art.

Some Galleries say anything since post-modern is contemporary art.

**This is confusing to the lay person and also to artists like me, because, unlike pop art or pointillism and impressionism or any of the periods through the history of art, it is meaningless.**

My view is that contemporary art should represent what the world is like in this present period, such as progress in all fields of life i.e. electric trains rather than steam which belongs to nostalgia.

It should contain anything from the latter part of the 20th Century to the present day, be it everyday mundane to exciting.

### My Contemporary Paintings



*Fruit in a Plastic Bag*: there are thousands of still life paintings of fruit on plates, dishes etc so what makes this contemporary? This is contemporary because the bag is plastic.

# Painting of the month

**First: Jenny Lawther,**  
*Eucalyptus Elegance, Acrylic*



**Second: Sue Parry, Oil**



**Third: Wei Chun Lee, Watercolour**



*Orange in tissue paper:* this qualifies for the same reason



*Old people who meet every Sunday to sunbake:* Contemporary? Yes. Only in the last four or five decades would you have seen this. Also, the style of swimsuits would only have been seen in this time period.

## Tale of a Painting

by Marija Newbold

Marija Newbold visited the GAG exhibition nearly 30 years ago at their old place in Glenroy. She fell in love with a painting and bought it, enjoying it over the years, not ever having met the artist.

What she loves about the painting is that it's timeless, fits into any décor and she finds it very relaxing to look at.

Over the years many people have commented on the painting and she often wished that she knew the artist who has given her so much joy.

WELL, GUESS WHAT.....??

As an emerging artist and looking for a place to gather with like-minded people she joined Glenroy Art Group.

When rearranging her house after a massive renovation and repositioning her art on the walls, one painting in particular made her look at the artist's unusual signature.

OMG what a discovery! She looked at it again and realised that Glenroy Art Group had a Life Member by the same name 'DAWN'. And yes, it was confirmed that Dawn was indeed the artist. How exciting was that! She decided to bring it to the next meeting and surprise Dawn with the painting. Needless to say, it was a very emotional Dawn that day seeing one of her paintings after all those years.



*Dawn's beautiful pastel painting*

### Main points from the minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2021

Sue welcomed (as President ) all back to the first post-Covid-lockdown meeting.

Under our Covid plan, using the QR code mobile app, we can accommodate 28 people rather than 14. The attendance book should also be used. We also need to sanitize tables prior to and after use.

Members were reminded to check the notice board for dates for demonstrations, workshops and Painting of the Month dates.

Charges for hall hire are to be presented at the next council meeting.

Noted that a Glenroy festival is being held on the first weekend in May which is on the same date as our May art show.

Noted that Spinners and Weavers use the room on some Saturdays so therefore weekdays are possibly the best days for demonstrations and workshops.

Attendance on Thursday nights needs to improve for meetings to continue.

The Post Office has moved to Boundary Road.

Anyone with ideas re art shows etc. and possible artists for demonstrations/workshops should let Marija know.

## In memory of Jack Boardman

7 November 1926 – 7 March 2021



Jack has been a much loved member of our group for many years. All who met Jack valued his generosity, kindness, willingness to share his knowledge, help out with tasks and, of course, for his beautiful art. The poem he wrote to accompany the painting (right) shows he had the skills of a poet as well. Always full of surprises Jack. We shall all miss you greatly and our warmest wishes and condolences to Marie Boardman and family.



Right is a poem by Jack to compliment his sketch of the Pondage Dam at Mount Beauty, Victoria April 2008

### *Rhapsody in Blue*

*The fingers of the night crept down into the valley still.  
Quietly quenched the last faint ray of sunshine on the hill.  
The tall green poplars, alien to the grey green gums around  
Were gripped by natures frosty touch in a mantle so profound.  
Across the lake the cold blue mist did veil them from our sight  
And hold them in an icy clutch throughout the long cold night.  
Come morn, the fingers of the night crept back across the hill  
The first gold rays of sunshine showed the mist around them still.  
Slowly, oh so slowly, the veil was softly drawn  
Sunshine, heralding the birth of a wondrous, quiet, still morn.  
And the wonder and the beauty of the great tall poplars green  
Now emblazoned with a golden coat of leaves of lustrous sheen  
Reflected in still waters blue, breathtaking was the view  
A scene of peace and beauty, a Rhapsody in Blue.*

