

GLENROY ART GROUP INC

Monthly News: Bumper Issue #5/6++ Oct/Nov 2019.

Upcoming events:

1st, 3rd and 4th Sat in 2020:
room open from 10.30-2.30

Monday opening in
January: 13th of January
2020

Visiting Artists Dates

Caroline Lewallen
22nd February:

Tony Clarke: Spray
Painting Demo
12-2pm 7th March

Activity Day: First
Wednesday in February.
Activity to be announced

Monday activity day: first
activity to be announced

En Plein Air: In
January I will do some
en plein air activity
and id love it if you
want to join me.
Please send me an
email or text to let me
know if you are
interested

So Much!

In the last month we had Ted Dansey come to do a demonstration of watercolour and you can find pictures and a review in these pages. We have had activity days, and everybody is preparing for our upcoming Art and Craft Show at the end of November.

Also in these pages you will find three responses about the question 'What is art to Me', some art works in progress, Painting of the Month, and a few tips, including a video, for those of you with access to the internet.

The image on the right is by Marion Latham, and is the chosen painting to go on our advertising boards for our November show.



Painting of the Month



1st: Marija Newbold;

Pretty in Pink, Acrylic on Canvas

2nd: Val Beddome:

Black Cockatoos,, Watercolour on cotton rag

3rd: Maureen Zmak: Old Truck. Alcohol ink



We have three stories this month. Dr Kelley Johnson tells her view of art as a collector and observer, and Cornelia Conway tells us what art means to her, as an artist. Marion Latham gives us her profile.

I hope you enjoy.



Above art work is by [Sue Parry](#) created on the Activity day workshop on Wednesday the 2nd October:

We mapped the tones of a capsicum using either graphite or charcoal, and used fingers, white pastel and erasers to take back the whites. No drawing was allowed, forcing us to work with our right brain and follow the tones via their spacial placement.

Contact info:

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

Facebook: Glenroy Art Group

Website: glenroyartgroup.com

Enquires: 0490 214 012

President: Maureen Zmak

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Newsletter Items: Julieanne

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Thanks

Moreland City Council for your continuous and much appreciated support of our group

-ArtHouse Direct Essendon

-Ausdart

for your generous discounts to our members

I am An Art Voyeur

by Dr Kelley Johnson, Art Collector

I don't draw, I don't paint, have never made a collage and have never used clay or sculpted a figure. So what does art mean to me? My memories of trying to be an artist are filled with childhood visions of the strap wielding art teacher (he didn't hit girls fortunately), critical comments and the frustration that nothing I did looked anything like what I saw or felt in my head. I wrote essays for my friends who then did my assessable art work.

Now I sit at my desk and look at the walls filled with photographs, prints and paintings and I feel the wonder and the excitement that they evoke: - The Rothko poster that is a reminder of the wonder of sitting for an hour in the Rothko room at the National Gallery in London, slowly sinking through the colours and the squares to some other place of meditation. The universe of Pollock. The print made by Philippa who became a friend- the lonely pillar with a figure sitting solitary on its top watching the birds flying, a symbol of my life at one period and I wonder, 'how did she do it?'; The stories that lie behind Philippa's series of prints of the women who accompanied the Irish men who build the railroads in Yorkshire, her dancing figures, the cliffs and the quiet face of the woman who waits. Together they form a story that I tell and retell while I enjoy the skill and the beauty of the prints, the line and the shading. The beautiful portrait photograph of Samuel Beckett which has followed me around the world and who gazes at me as I try to write, an inspiration and a stern reminder of the work I need to do.

A print bought years ago in New York by Solembre, a French print maker, which has been a symbol of my life. The quiet dark sea and sky, the boat far away by the horizon and the one just leaving port with its flag flying, has been a statement of how I see my life: the horizon a shining line to which my boat sails.

Over the years I have explored art galleries as I have wandered the world and often stood filled with wonder at what I have seen. The skill and sometimes the genius, the work and the commitment, the capacity to evoke feelings and to put me in touch with some deep core of humanity, the marvel of colour and line and shade that can take me away from the everyday to another place which can be both outside and inside me. And integral now to the art that I see each day are memories of places and people.

No, I am not an artist but I am so grateful to those who are.

see page 4 for some photos of some of Kelley's collected artworks. All the ones mentioned, and an extra one, from Iceland, that she loves for its humour, and also how it reminds her of the culture and landscape in her favourite place, Iceland

Ted Dansey

Watercolour Workshop Review

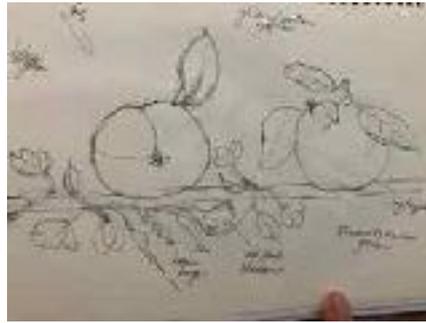
At our Demonstration on Water colour by Ted Dempsey I was surprised how much I enjoyed the process.

Water colour is not my medium and I have stayed clear of it, thinking it was too difficult and a long procedure.

Well Ted proved me wrong. Painting should be fun let it flow and don't take it so seriously says Ted.

Fun it was his sense of humour kept me glued to the entire time and the tips I picked up will also apply to my other mediums.

Will I take up Water colour you bet I will. Thanks to Ted.



Preliminary drawing by Cornelia, for a work in progress

Further work on the work in progress, after the drawing. Apples in acrylic, unfinished



Art in my life! by Cornelia Conway

How do you describe such a question?

My memory sometimes fails me, but I remember so well walking to the Art Department at RMIT to be ready for classes at 6.00pm. This quick walk, three days of the week, used to fill me with joy and anticipation. The weariness of full time teaching seemed to fall away the closer I came to the Pottery Department!

My ambition was to "teach Art to willing students".....

However, no vacancy opened up so for many years, my passion remained within and only found expression in small ways. In other words "the need to earn a living" took over.....

When I finally retired from active teaching, after more than 40 years of twists and turns the wonderful freedom to explore avenues of Art again, arrived.

I have found that my "style" has changed and developed over the years and now am constantly being excited by new ideas and possibilities. I look forward to coming to the Prospect Street venues, meeting new friends and sharing techniques in all mediums being explored and developed.



Above workshop review by Marija Newbold

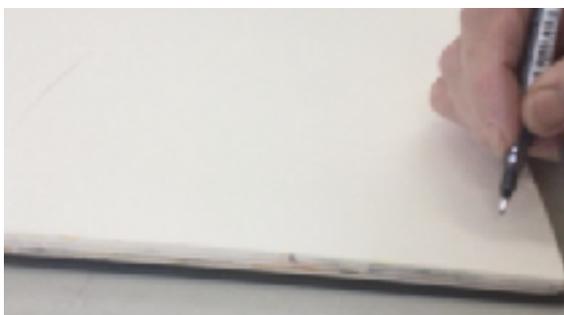
Lets prepare for the show

Can't wait

Bumper Issue



Kelley's home is covered in gorgeous works. Her home is a gallery. Here are some of the paintings she mentioned in her contribution: Clockwise from top left: Samuel Beckett looking at her over her desk. (she has written many books). The Rothko that transports her; The Icelandic painting she didn't speak of but loves; Phillippa's prints; the girl on a pole.



Tips and Tricks. Above is a little video of Alice Lord demonstrating how to remove waterproof ink from a drawing.

Gelli Printing: a blog post for us from Jenny

Jenny sent us this blog post she wrote. I really enjoyed reading it and next year she will run a workshop day for us on how to do this, Gelli Printing.

Mixed media fun

Mixed media and journaling are not something I have done too much of, but when there is too much life and not enough art time, it can be a great way to have creative fun without being too invested in the results and, even better, the results take up very little storage room. When I was not working, Thursday afternoons were my favourite time to go to the community mixed media class a few minutes' walk from my home in London. For only 3 UK pounds it was an absolute bargain! I needed a break last Thursday so took a day's leave from work and turned up at class. You can see my effort posted of whimsy houses. It's just a bit of fun, created on a gessoed old furniture catalogue with some prints, scissors, glue and a black texta; and didn't take much longer than an hour.

Some of you will have heard of, or know about, Gelli Plates. There is a lot of information about them on the internet on You Tube. Our class was one of the ways you can use the results.



What are gelli plates?

They are a clear, flexible 'plate' that look and feel like gelatine or silicone but are made of a unique plastic. They are used for easy monoprinting. There are recipes to make your own, but those ones don't last forever. The bought ones are not cheap, but are completely reusable and simple to maintain and store and last indefinitely if you look after them. They come in different sizes and shapes (usually a little larger than A4 is the largest size unless you want to make your own - I don't!).

Gelli Printing

With a brayer, some acrylic paint (any brand, any type), paper (including junk mail, old book pages, anything other than glossy photopaper or fragile paper) and lots of stuff like stencils, stamps, leaves or all sorts of things you might have around the house such as bottle caps, thread etc etc. Acrylic paint works best, but you can also experiment with lots of other mediums such as inks.

Method

1. Add small amounts of paint to the plate
2. Spread with a brayer, clean the brayer on scrap paper
3. Add on any desired textures, patterns etc (no sharp objects though)
4. Place paper over and firmly smooth down with your hands
5. Lift paper to see the result!
6. The first prints are usually much brighter and more solid. If you continue to lift prints from



the plate without adding more paint you will get 'ghost' prints which are soft and often much more interesting

- 7. The possibilities are endless - you can reprint over your prints building up complex layers until you get something you like. These are a couple of examples of the pulled prints I used in my whimsy houses.

Gelli Prints - Why?

- Endless possibilities!
- Easy and quick to use - and ANYONE can pull a gelli print
- Builds backgrounds easily - great for journaling or card making and other creative projects. A flat finish so you can draw or paint over the top
- Play with, experiment and learn more about colours
- Use up leftover paint
- Helps to loosen up, play and have fun
- Create effects you couldn't possibly paint

It is addictive..... and it was way more fun than going to work!!

Jenny 😊

Tips And Tricks

We have a lot of them in this issue!



Tip from Marija Newbold:

Grab a Rev milk carton or any milk carton that is lined and open it out so it is flat. When it has been cleaned it will make a great palette and when you have finished you can just throw it away. No more messy cleaning of palettes!

Tip from Alice Lord:

You can remove permanent waterproof ink from a drawing using a product from Chux. you buy it at the supermarket. You can see it on page 4; Cut a small piece off the product and dampen it. Wipe it gently on the ink you wish to remove. it takes a little time and works best on watercolour paper.



Note:

We made little videos of both these tips and I will see if we can upload them to facebook as they don't work in the newsletter.

More Tips and Tricks:

If you need to roll up an acrylic painting on any ground (canvas, paper, vinyl etc) for posting, or for any other reason, roll it with the painting facing outward. The acrylic paint can stretch that way without being damaged, but rolling it facing inward bends it and crumples it and its much more likely to crack.

Tip learned from an acrylic workshop. - Julieanne Beckham.



**Lid stuck on old paint tubes both oil or acrylic? Put them in boiling hot water or over a lighter flame for short time and
voila!
It comes off .. Sue Parry**

Profile: Marion Latham

My art journey began well on into my life. I don't remember much about any interest in drawing or painting from when I was small, unless we count making mud pies. My first love has always been words. From a young age I tried to write and read. I quickly learned to read at school and within the first year was reading well above what the teachers considered my age level. I read everything I could get my hands on. My mother commented that if there was nothing else available, I would read the wall-paper. I enjoyed learning to spell and to spell well. Even now, I find it difficult to read things where words are not spelled correctly. For me, it is like I imagine a musician would feel on hearing a piece of music full of discords. Sadly, these days it is not considered politically correct to correct other people's spelling. Often very frustrating!

Back to art.

In grade 3 I remember we had a subject called 'white drawing', which I enjoyed. We learned about using such things as perspective in drawing. I remember also in other grades, enjoying decorating my poetry book with copied sketches appropriate to the poems I had written out. I have only vague memories of drawing in pastel or pencil in secondary school. The young enthusiastic art teacher at our country high school offered Saturday art classes. I think I was the only student who turned up. She didn't give me drawing or painting, which is what I was hoping, but making things with boxes. I didn't bother after that. In biology classes my diagrams of things like rats' innards were truly a work of art.

At Teachers' College we learned blackboard drawing with chalk and I always enjoyed decorating the blackboard in my classroom with drawings from nursery rhymes or children's books.

(profile continued over page)

some of Marions art works:

Profile: Marion Latham, Continued



As an adult, drawing and painting did not feature much in my life, although I do have a sketch of my eldest son in his first few days done on the back of an envelope in biro. What else does a person do when you were not allowed out of bed for about a week after giving birth? In the mid-1970s, when my fourth child was a toddler, I went with a friend to the local YMCA for oil painting classes. In my opinion the instructor was a terrible teacher, but I did learn to mix paints and I remember a few tips such as, 'Don't bother buying lots of colours. You really only need the three primaries, and black and lots of white' and 'Cover your whole canvas as quickly as you can to get rid of the white.' I learned from watching the others in the class, who were not all raw beginners like me. I also learned from playing around with the paints at home. My kitchen was full of the smell of turps.



My next foray into art didn't happen until around five years ago. I am almost totally 'left-brained' and felt I should do something to get my 'right-brain' operating better. So I joined a class in beginners' drawing at the local community house. After that initial course, the instructor suggested I join her 'advanced' group of painters and it was in that group I experimented with acrylics, water colour and pastel. My right brain has developed a little.

When I retired from work and moved to Greenvale, I looked around for an art group and found Glenroy Art Group - so here I am!

Pastel Workshop With Caroline Lewallen

Photos by Maureen Zmak



There were several stages to creating this work, and members worked along with the process.

Pastel was put down on treated paper, and alcohol was poured down it. This gave some interesting effects which were exploited in the following stages.

In these photos clockwise from top left, you can see the first stage, a group of members with their finished works, Caroline's hand doing further works, and the final work. It was a great day of learning. More workshops to come next year, so keep an eye on our calendars on line and on facebook, and in this newsletter.

Painting of the Month: November:



1st: Marija Newbold. My Boat. Pastel

2nd: Olga Minikhanov, Lighthouse. Watercolour

3rd Cornelia Conway: After The Rain. Acrylic.

Minutes November:

The meeting was mostly about arranging our November show.

Recent workshops:



Wednesday group has had two workshops. Both on the first Wednesday of the month. In October we worked on looking at tone only and using charcoal to find our way around a capsicum with no drawing and only using tone.

In November we did a meditative sensory workshop on portraiture. Some images are below: and throughout the newsletter.

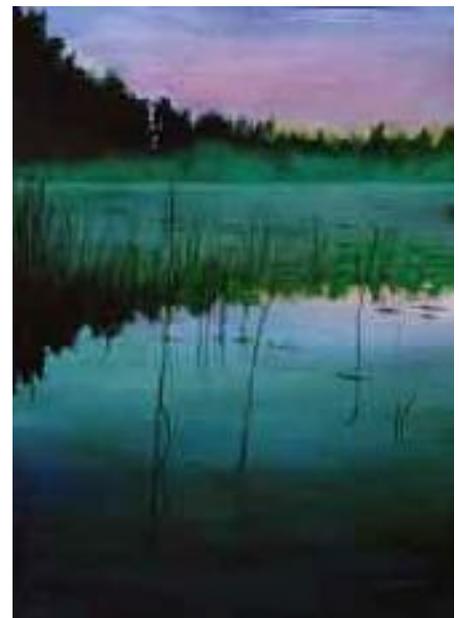


Lets prepare for the show

Can't wait

October 10, 2019

assorted works in Progress over the last few months:



If you love to create,

Come Join us

Previous Page: left to right on each line:

Julieanne Beckham: **Peony using soluble graphite.** Marion Latham **Bird in watercolour pencils.** . Julieanne Beckham: **mixed media on vinyl.** Sue Parry, **Watercolour on Paper.** Val Beddome **Flowers in Watercolour Pencil.** Dorsija, **Swan in watercolour pencil.** Marija Newbold, **Acrylic on canvas.** Jenny Lawther, **Watercolour.**

I hope you have enjoyed this bumper issue, covering October and November with four extra pages to get us to February next year when the next use is due. Please send contributions for that issue over the Christmas break and by mid January if possible. You can send: Art works in progress, finished recent art works, stories, thoughts, reviews of gallery visits, tips, tricks, in fact anything you think would add to our community's newsletter. Please reduce photos to a small size, and label any works with their medium and title.

Keep in mind the following dates:

Christmas Party: December 9th

final Wednesday December 11th, which is also the last Activity Day 10.30-2.30 +

final Thursday: December 12th 7.30-9.30 pm

final Saturday: December 14th 10.30-2.30

January: Scheduled opening as per the Annual General Meeting, Monday 13 January and possibly other dates after this, in January, depending on if someone can open.

Full return to normal time schedules for 2020 year will begin on the first Monday of February 2020

February 3rd: first Monday: 10.30-2.30 General meeting 11.30-12.15

February 5th: first Wednesday : 10.30-2.30

February 6th: first Thursday Night: 7.30-9.30

February 8th: First Saturday: 10.30-2.30

see ya then: Julieanne

If you love to create,



Marion Latham, and her beautiful work, which was used on our advertising boards for our November show. Thankyou Jason Real Estate for your support.

Come Join us

Lets prepare for the show

Can't wait

October 10, 2019

If you love to create,

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