

# The Good Oil

Autumn 2025



International Flower Show,  
Members Showcase  
Art Demonstrations with



*Annee Kelly*

*Maxine Wade*

*Jonathan Gemmell*

32 Greenwood Ave  
Maroondah Federation  
Estate, Ringwood  
rasart@outlook.com

Joel Spencer

Print Post Number: 100016182



## Meetings @ 7pm

Maroondah Federation Estate  
Greenwood Ave, Ringwood

### 2nd Monday of month

Guest artist demonstration  
6.30 - bring paintings for Members Showcase



rasart@outlook.com

## RAS Committee 2025

<b>President Sponsorship</b>	Denise Warren rasart@outlook.com
<b>Vice President Life Drawing Co-ordinator</b>	Graeme Moulden gmoulden@bigpond.net.au
<b>Secretary</b>	Fiona Foley
<b>Treasurer</b>	Frances Langdon
<b>Membership</b>	Christina Higgs
<b>Purchasing</b>	Kaye Smith
<b>The Good Oil RAS Design Instagram Website</b>	Linda Hibbs
<b>Exhibitions</b>	Lorraine Manderson
<b>General</b>	Graham Jones Lisa Bullock

### Non Committee Roles

<b>Plein air Coordinator</b>	Trudi Canavan
<b>Members Showcase</b>	Jennie Cody
<b>Website</b>	Leigh Brownfield (LiftoffCreative)
<b>Facebook</b>	Denise Warren
<b>Library</b>	Barb Dodson
<b>Exhibition Support</b>	Paul Clark

### Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation who are the traditional custodians of the land upon which RAS stands. We would also like to pay respect to the Wurundjeri Elders, past and present, future and extend this respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples today.



## Note from the Editor

Hi fellow artists!

Apologies for the lateness of this issue.

Firstly, my heartfelt sympathy goes out to Lisa Higgs (past President) whose husband recently passed away. It has been a very difficult time for her and her family. On behalf of everyone at RAS, we hope your love of art will ease you through the road ahead. Lisa has also been the one who initiated the group artworks (made up of individual small canvases) and you can see the latest one on page 6.

My mother, who was also an artist, passed away a few weeks ago. She was 100 - well a week off. She taught me to draw - she was a lovely artist who took oil painting lessons at Ringwood Tech with some Ringwood Art Society members back in the 1960s. She then switched to watercolour but with a family - found it hard to find the time. She later attended Folk Art classes at Croydon U3A and she did some beautiful work. 'Don't put off till tomorrow what you can do today' was a favourite saying of hers - but she didn't always abide by that when it came to doing art. I am sure many of you can relate! But we just have to make time.

Congratulations to Denise as she takes up the position as the new RAS President. She will do a great job but it is a big role these days, made lighter only if we all step up and help out.

Follow our Facebook (for Members) or our Instagram (public) where we keep you up to date (see info on p15). I am pleased to see a few members have again or for the first time entered the **Incognito exhibition** which I have thoroughly enjoyed entering in past years. This raises money to provide art experiences to those who are disabled. **Also note that the offer for 20% discount from Frames Now is valid until June.**

Keep on creating!

#### Front cover main image:

Hiraeth Light - Watercolour by RAS artist Joel Spencer. Small artworks exhibited at the Flower Show: Denise Warren, Lynn Baxter, Glenda Tjepkema, Lorraine Manderson, Kirstin Hibbs.



## Note from the President



Hi everyone and welcome to another fabulous edition of The Good Oil magazine and my first as President. I would like to thank Gordon Carter and the

outgoing committee for their hard work over the past years. They are a hard act to follow but the new Committee for 2025 with some old and some new: Graham, Frances, Fiona, Kaye, Linda, Graham, Lisa, Christina and Lorraine have started off with great gusto and a keen interest to learn all aspects and continue the great work set up by Gordon's team and for that I thank them."

A little about me for those who don't know me - I joined RAS in 2022 after returning from five years in SA. I was involved in SALA exhibitions (South Australian Living Artists) whilst there, and was keen to keep developing my art practice on my return to Melbourne and the Ringwood Art Society seemed a good fit for me. I have dabbled (as we all do) in most mediums but seem to have settled with acrylic paint and I enjoy producing vibrant colour paintings in an expressive style. I have a supportive husband, two children and two grandsons who keep me very busy, happy and tired as only grandchildren can.

The recent Melbourne International Garden and Flower Show was a great success for the Art Society with 76 entries, 25 sales, which is 33% \$8251 in sales, amounting in \$5940.72 for the artists.

Some interesting points on analysis that may interest you for planning next year:

- Sold: 13 Flora, 9 Fauna, 1 Still-life, 1 Seascape and 1 Abstract
- Average price sale \$342
- Most expensive \$575
- Least expensive \$80.
- A noticeably younger demographic of buyers this year.

I would like to thank all members who embraced the change of location for March & April meetings held at the Kilsyth Club. We return to Maroondah Federation Estate for the May meeting where our demonstrator is Yesim Gozukara and we return to our normal Members Showcase 'Scapes' - Landscapes, Seascapes and Urban Scapes. Our Lifestyle Corridor Exhibition is **Blue by You** and we will be welcoming a prize for 'Peers Choice' for this exhibition and future Lifestyle Exhibitions for this year as a trial.

It is shaping up to be a very busy year with three more Lifestyle Exhibitions and I am happy to announce **Miller's Homestead** have invited us back for a Spring Exhibition so there are many opportunities to exhibit and be an active artist in RAS.

But wait there is more!

2026 is the 60th anniversary of RAS and I'm happy to advise we have an Exhibition allocated to us in **Gallery ONE at Maroondah Federation Estate** for a four week period. We will advise details as they further develop but this is a wonderful start to our 60th celebrations.

I look forward to getting to know more members and providing opportunities to create and exhibit among like-minded artists. Please know you can always email any suggestions to me at rasart@outlook.com

Kind regards,  
Denise



# Art Demonstration

## Annee Kelly

Annee Kelly loves painting outdoors and her skill in observation is evident in the way she finds a section of interest and is able to hone in on the parts that will catch the eye of the viewer. She is predominantly a watercolour artist but also works in acrylic.

Annee was born in Egypt in 1949 and arrived in Australia to complete her education in 1969 where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts and Teachers Certificate. She always loved drawing and painting and was able to return to her love of art once her children were in Primary School. She initially started painting in oil, gouache and pastel but then discovered watercolour and immediately fell in love. She has won many awards and had many exhibitions and is sought after as a teacher.

During the demonstration of a scene in Lancefield, Annee explained her technique and how she approaches a subject. She will usually create an initial sketch to work out the balance of the composition and will remove something from the scene if needed. She works on 300gsm paper so that it does not have to be stretched. She wet this before starting her painting and to keep it wet during the process she uses a fine water spray. She tries to limit the colours she uses and often does not use a green but creates green from other colours. She did however use a Winsor green and Sap green for the demonstration. She began painting in big shapes and then starts to work in more detail.

If Annee is working en plein air, she likes to leave the sky white and just work on the other parts of the scene. Her landscapes are generally divided into thirds, and within these she create tonal values from lights, to mid tones and darks. Some of her techniques included waiting until the sheen of the water has disappeared from a tree for example, and then scratch in some fine branches with her fingernail. She also has used the wax of a candle to draw a few dots prior to painting to create markings on rocks, for example. To create interest in the colours she will add a dash of red into blue, for example, sometimes adding several different colours to the wet paper that merge and create soft hues. As she painted using the wet on wet technique, a beautiful landscape slowly emerged.



*“Composition is one of the most important parts of watercolour”* Anne Kelly



# Art Demonstration

## Maxine Wade

Maxine Wade is well known for her watercolour paintings and has demonstrated at RAS previously using this method. For this demonstration she chose to use Quink Ink and watercolour - producing some amazing effects as the two work so well together. Adding Quink ink to wet paper creates blue, purple and even orange edges as the water draws the black away. The ink can also be drawn onto dry paper to create details.

To demonstrate her various techniques, Maxine chose to paint two architectural paintings at the same time (see right). Before starting, she created some outlines of the buildings - which she used as a guide only. She used more watercolour paint on the arch and Quink on the building to bring out the blues. Working on Baohong 300gsm paper (slightly rough side) she first sprayed the paper with water as this creates softer edges (dry paper creates harder edges). The initial stages were created wet on wet and then these were sharpened up later after the painting had dried.

Maxine also used a stick as a paint brush/drawing tool to create the windows. The first line is usually dark and then the paint runs out - so it gives more variety. She also used an Alviro brush that holds a lot of water and a Tintoretto brush - a long rigger. The aim is to give the idea of architecture, not accurate details. She emphasised the importance of working intuitively, not thinking about the painting too much - just basically get on with it and don't over think.

Always retain some of that first spontaneous layer when working wet on wet. Don't then go over the painting, putting in all the details. Combine the initial layer with some indicated details. One of the blues she used in the first painting was Smalt (Winsor and Newton) but also added turquoise, manganese and cadmium yellow drops to create interest.

The final two paintings showed a beautiful array of colours that had bled into each other in some areas with details of the buildings appearing out of the original layer.



*“Get to a point where you ignore what you're working from”*

Maxine Wade



# Group Project



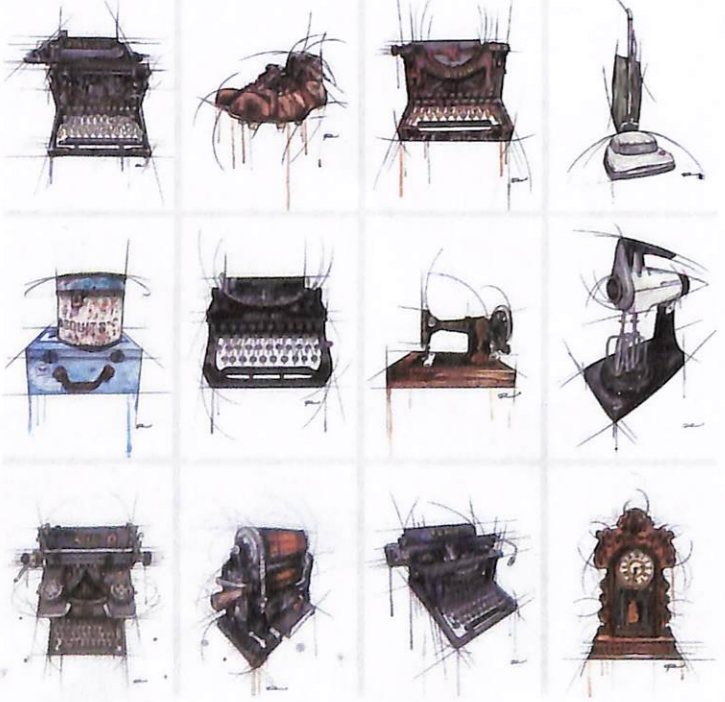
Did you guess that your small canvas piece was part of a Jonathan Gemmell creation?! This was another of these wonderful group project organised by past RAS President, Lisa Higgs. I heard many of you say 'how do I get that colour?'.... is it peach or pink?...is it sky blue or ultramarine? But look at the end product! It made us all think about colour and how it might affect the canvas next to ours. The actual clear definition of circles and squiggles became secondary to ensuring that the edges might match the adjoining canvas. Pictured here is the original artist, Jonathan Gemmell, Lisa Higgs and Denise Warren (President).



Well done everyone - a beautiful creative project. For those of you who are not sure how this works. All RAS members were invited to participate. Those who obtained a canvas were also provided with a small image to copy with no idea as to who the artist was or what the overall painting might look like. We were asked to only use acrylic paint and to try to keep as close to the original colour as possible. The canvases were then put together and thus we all created one big eye catching painting from our little canvases.



Recent work by RAS member Renee Mitchell selling at the Brisbane Affordable Art Fair on Mothers Day weekend. You can find Renee's work on her Instagram or Facebook sites: @reneemitchellart



Next Lifestyle Corridor Exhibition theme

## The Everyday

Art Exhibition and Sale  
14th July - 8th September

**RAS**  
Ringwood Art Society

Lifestyle Corridor  
Maroondah Federation  
Estate Ringwood

Prizes for First, Second, and Peer Choice Awards  
(note change to awards this year)

Members: All artwork must represent the theme.  
Entry forms due 7th July.  
Bring Art to meeting 14th July  
Any Medium. Up to two works.

Ringwood Art Society  
Maroondah Federation Estate  
Ringwood Ave.  
Ringwood  
rasart@outlook.com

# Art Demonstration Jonathan Gemmell

Jonathan Gemmell has demonstrated for RAS before and he is always fascinating to watch as he works on a large canvas and seems to pluck ideas out of his head as he goes and creates an evolving abstract scene. Bold colours and marks are Jonathan's signature but each work has a unique and distinctive design.

Jonathan grew up in Warrandyte and has loved painting all his life. He came from a very supportive family who encouraged him to experiment and paint from inspiration. After finishing school he became a landscape designer whilst eventually fulfilling his dream of becoming a full time painter. He finds inspiration for nature and works mostly on large canvases.

During the demonstration he encouraged people to explore seeing where the painting takes you. You can start with an idea, but with abstract you can build on what you place on the canvas first. You might have a colour scheme in mind but can add interest and ideas from within the colour palette. His demonstration work showed freedom yet at the same time a clearly defined composition in abstract form. Each colour was laid down with a measured and thoughtful consideration of what was already there.



Jonathan's work is exhibited across Australia and overseas. They are bright, joyful paintings that can light up any wall.

*"The colours of our rich land, the beautiful flora and fauna – these all come with me into the studio and get reinvented on to my canvases."* Jonathan Gemmell  
See interview [stylecurator.com.au](http://stylecurator.com.au)



# ARTIST OF THE MONTH Tuesday Group



Kaye Smith



and enjoys working in watercolour. He has a Bachelor of Pharmacy, Advanced Diploma in Naturopathy, Grad Dip in Psychology and MA in Business Administration.

Valencia Johnston was born in Sri Lanka and moved to Australia as a child. She was originally a qualified Radiographer but later switched to study nursing and becoming a midwife then working in Maternal and Child Health. Val has worked in watercolour but her favourites are oil and pastels.

Margaret Newnham has always loved art but after retiring her interest expanded and she has loved painting landscapes, still life and particularly portraits. She enjoys working in oils, pastels, acrylics and charcoal and has tried expressionism and abstract art.

Editor's Note: Apologies to Sally as I did not have a larger photo to include.



Ink on Yupo - Judy Webber



Valencia Johnson



Margaret Newnham



Ali Kozanoglu

Artist who exhibited from the group included Judy Webber, Kaye Smith, Ali Nejat Kozanoglu, Valencia Johnston, Margaret Newnham and Sally Liow.

Kaye and Judy both joined Ringwood Art Society over 20 years ago and are Life Members (Judy was also a past President) and together they convene the Tuesday morning group.

Kaye has always loved doing art and enjoys working in oil or pastel. Judy in a non traditional artist, showing a love of colour. She has travelled extensively and this shows in her subject matter. During her Professional Career, Judy was Chief Executive Officer of the Australasian Mining Institute and established JMW Business Professionals Pty Ltd.

Ali Nejat Kozanoglu originated from Turkey and always loved art but it was only as his workload eased that he was able to return to painting

# ARTIST OF THE MONTH Denise Warren



"I have selected works that typically define where I have come from and well, who knows, where I am heading...but the journey is fun so far, so that's the main thing!

As an artist I have tried many different approaches to find what inspires me and gives a sense of me in the paintings I create. I started with coloured pencil, then pastel, failed at watercolour, but find I enjoy oil and most of all acrylic.

I enjoy a loose and expressive style with vibrant colours to ultimately express the living world and the emotional connection to it. Whether it is the delicate beauty of a plant, the dynamic energy of an animal or the emotional connection to personal experiences and memories, I aim to capture the essence of the subject that chose me to paint it. I have been called a 'StoryTeller' on occasions which I can definitely see, but not one for definitive labels. I keep creating what comes to me in the moment, usually from a photo I capture or an idea that won't leave me!

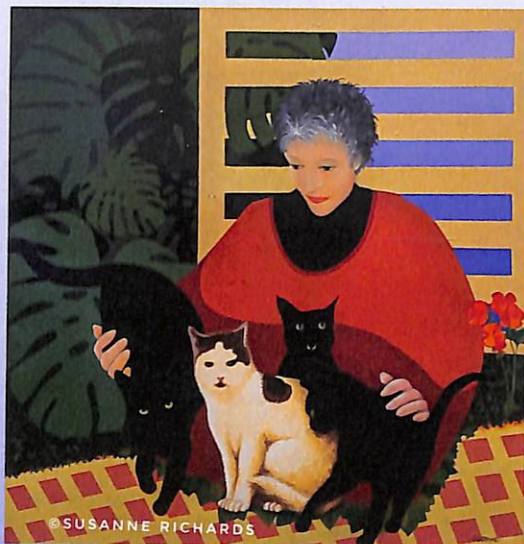
I enjoy vibrant colours and recently texture has entered my art practice more and I am enjoying experimenting with many different mediums that acrylic lends itself to. The quick drying time of acrylics allows me to put brushstrokes down quickly and build layers, while adding dimension to the artwork. Pallet knives, sponges and many mark making tools also intrigue me and I find myself reaching for these more often these days because I feel I paint more freely when creating loosely over re-purposed canvases while dancing in my so-called studio which is really a bedroom re-purposed for me!

I hope you find something to enjoy!"



# Members Showcase

## January Judge: Annee Kelly



Susanne Richards  
*Four Cats*  
Acrylic  
Competant work which made me smile.  
Beautifully excuted. Good Composition.



Glenda Tjepkema  
*Blue Trees*  
Acrylic and Ink  
Sensitive work with an  
atmospheric depth.



Anne Randles  
*Lily*  
Lino Cut  
Good Composition and  
design

## Other Entries January/March



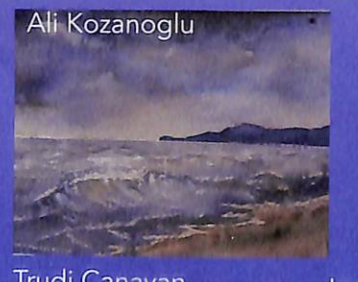
Paul Clark



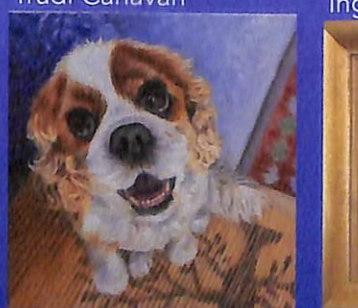
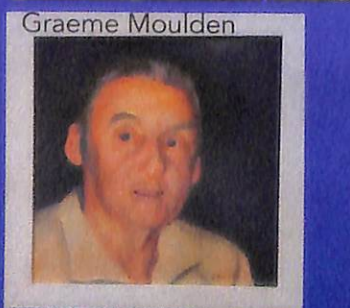
Ali Kozanoglu



Graeme Moulden



Trudi Canavan



Inge Engelhardt



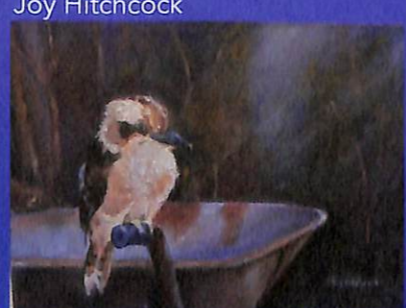
Joel Spencer



Julie Jackson



Joy Hitchcock



Note that the Members Showcase was temporarily titled Members Exhibition for the purpose of exhibiting in the Kilsyth Club in March and April and to simplify the process, only three awards were given. Congratulations on the winners! I have included some of the other works entered in January as there were some excellent ones. Don't forget - all winners need to send me a good quality image of their painting! lhibbs05@gmail.com

## March Judge: Maxine Wade

First Place  
Kayleen West



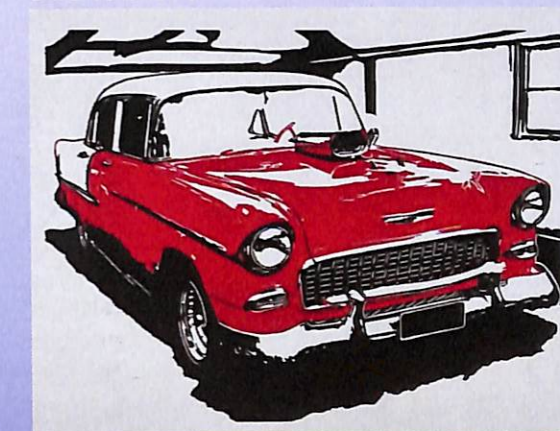
## April Judge: Jonathan Gemmell

First Place  
Graeme Moulden  
From first seeing  
this piece I thought it  
was a photo! The soft  
details are incredible!

Second Place  
Olinka Baykara  
*Beach Scene III*  
Love the colour, palette  
and texture. Working with a  
spatula. Composition good.



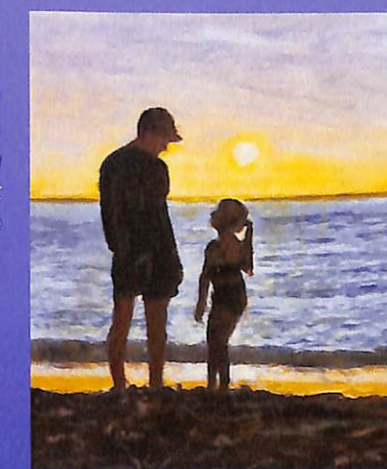
Second Place  
Sara Valentino



Third Place  
Barbara McManus



Third Place  
Anita Roleff  
Great movement  
on the horizon line.



# Changing Committee



A big thank you to Gordon Carter for leading our art society as President over the past few years. He had visions that helped make changes that have been trialed and taken the society into new possibilities. He always encouraged contributions from all members of the Committee as he felt we all had something to bring to the table. We know that being President is a big job but hope it was also a satisfying one - especially as aspects such as our exhibitions, demonstrators, workshops all come to fruition.

Also stepping away was Genna de Bont (Membership), Margaret McGillivray (Demonstrators), Joy Hitchcock (Treasurer - who tried to leave once before!), and Michele McWilliams. Thank you for all your amazing work over the past year or years. Every role a committee member takes on benefits the society as a whole.

And you don't have to be a Committee member to help out. We often need people willing to take on various roles to ensure that our society remains vibrant and that includes helping with finding Demonstrators (for 2026) Thanks Gordon for doing that for this year. And helping to organise workshops. If you are interested in any of those who helping out with exhibitions - please do let us know as it is volunteers who make the society what it is.

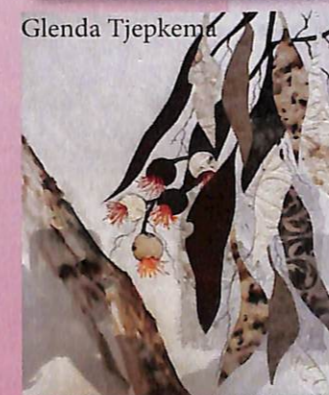


2025 Committee: Left to right  
 Back row: Frances Langdon (Treasurer), Denise Warren (President), Lorraine Manderson (Exhibitions), Fiona Foley (Secretary)  
 Front: Kaye Smith (supplies), Linda Hibbs (Media, Design, The Good Oil), Lisa Bullock (General Committee), Christina Higgs (Membership), Graeme Moulden (Vice President), Graham Jones (General Committee)

# The International Flower Show



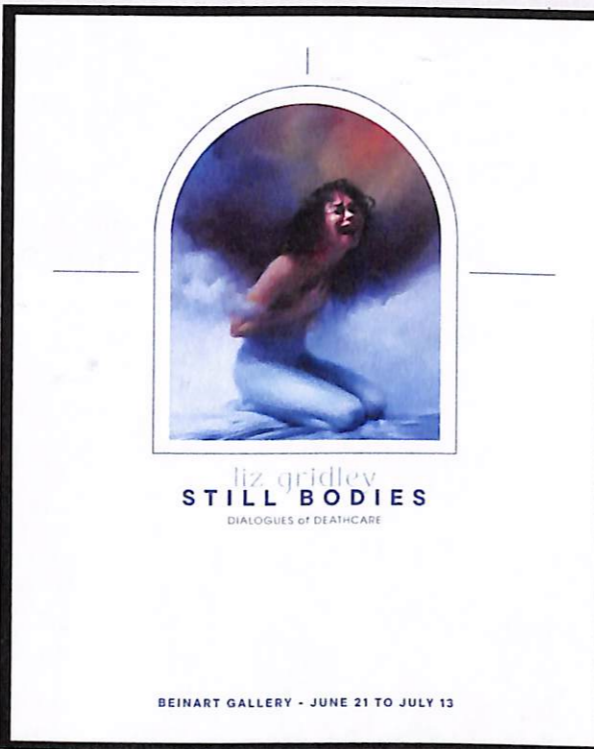
The Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show is always a tremendous success in selling paintings for our society. It is well worth going in so you know that others can see your work as part of a well attended event. Lots of visitors to the gardens like to take home a painting. There were 76 entries, 25 sales, which is 33% \$8251 in sales, amounting in \$5940.72 for the artists. Thank you to everyone who helped make this such a great success!



# Coming up

Book now!

Fascinating look at death and dying  
by RAS artist Liz Gridley  
Beinart Gallery  
See more of Liz's work:  
<https://www.lizgridley.com.au>  
and Instagram:  
@lizgridleyartist



## Paint a Pear 6 Ways – Acrylics



Workshop with Linda MacAulay

**All Day workshop 10-4pm  
Saturday 28th June 2025**

Ringwood Art Society Studios  
Maroondah Federation Estate, Ringwood

Explore the use of acrylic painting techniques and mediums.  
Learn how to work with this wonderful medium and what effects you  
can achieve, including blending, glazing, wet on wet and more.  
Linda MacAulay is a highly sought after artist and with her  
expertise, will guide you to take your paintings to the next level!

\$100 RAS Members \$120 Non Members

For further details and to book contact: [rasart@outlook.com](mailto:rasart@outlook.com)

Highly sought after pastel and oil artist known for his distinctive pastel style - this demonstration promises to be an inspiration for everyone

## Maxwell Wilks

Non Members Welcome (small fee)

Maroondah Federation Estate  
32 Greenwood Ave  
Ringwood  
Enquiries: [rasart@outlook.com](mailto:rasart@outlook.com)

**Monday  
July 14th  
2025 @7pm**

Maroondah Federation Estate  
Meeting Rms 1&2

Members Showcase  
Bring your paintings @ 6.30  
Ready to hang  
Enter one category:  
Flora  
Fauna  
Abstract



### INSTAGRAM @ringwoodartsociety

Best viewed using Mobile or iPad. To view on a computer - just do a Google Search for Ringwood Art Society Instagram. When using a Mobile it is best to sign up to Instagram and then you can leave comments or tap the 'like' (heart) icon.

In order to not get lost in a sea of images - type @ringwoodartsociety into a search (icon at bottom of screen) and go to our home page. SCROLL down to see images of member's artwork or our activities. These stay there. TAP on circle with our icon at the top to see 'stories' - posts that only last 24 hours. It is there that I promote local art events and competitions.

### RAS SCHEDULE 2025

RAS 2025	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>General Meeting (Monday)</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> (MFE) 6.30 for 7-9pm	NO MEETING	17 <sup>th</sup> Kilsyth Club 6.30 for 7-9pm <b>AGM</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> Kilsyth Club 6.30 for 7-9pm	12 <sup>th</sup> 6.30 for 7-9pm	16 <sup>th</sup> 6.30 for 7-9pm	14 <sup>th</sup> 6.30 for 7-9pm	11 <sup>th</sup> Sponsors Night 6-8pm	8 <sup>th</sup> 6.30 for 7-9pm	13 <sup>th</sup> 6.30 for 7-9pm	10 <sup>th</sup> 6.30 for 7-9pm	8 <sup>th</sup> Xmas Party 6-8pm
<b>Members Exhibitions</b>	Members Exhibition 1 Any Theme any Medium	NONE	Members Exhibition 2 Any Theme any Medium	Members Exhibition 3 Any Theme any Medium	Landscape Seascape Urban scape	Still Life Portrait Figures	Flora Fauna Abstract	None	Landscape Seascape Urban scape	Still Life Portrait Figures	Flora Fauna Abstract	Summer Salon
<b>Artist Demonstration</b>	ANNEE KELLY	NONE	MAXINE WADE	JONATHAN GEMMELL	YESIM GOZUKARA	DAVID REYNOLDS	MAX WILKS	NO	REGINA HONA	CATHY VAN EEE	LIZ GRIDLEY	NO
<b>Lifestyle Gallery Themed Exhibition Prizes 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; Peers Choice</b>	Collect Summer Salon	NONE	NONE	NONE	'BLUE BY YOU' An artwork that predominately uses various shades of Blue		'THE EVERYDAY' An artwork that captures the nature of ordinary life in either objects or moments		'ART OF THE BOOK' An artwork inspired by or created from books		'ART IN MOTION' An artwork that captures movement This will run for one month only Nov 10 to Dec 8	
<b>Workshops</b>						28 <sup>th</sup> Linda McCauley Acrylic mediums						
<b>Exhibitions TBA</b>			FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW MARCH 26-30						Millers Spring Exhibition Sept 3 -Nov28			

9/5/2025

COMMENTS: All events subject to change

January: MFE / February: No Meeting / March - April Meeting and Demonstrator @ Kilsyth Club 1-15 Canterbury Rd, Bayswater Nth May Resume as normal.

## Coming up in June

Demonstration by wonderful botanical and wildlife artist  
David Reynolds





# The Good Oil

32 Greenwood Ave  
Maroondah Federation  
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rasart@outlook.com

# The Art Shop .com.au

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- Surrey Hills                    585 Canterbury Rd, Surrey Hills

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**20% Discount**      Picture Framing Offer  
Exclusive for Ringwood Art Society

Offer ends 30/06/25 and applies to in-store full priced framing only.



**NEW!**

## art spectrum

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