Hello everyone

As most of you now know, January was a bleak month for the Society following the passing of our dear Patron, Julie Michael. Supportive to the Society right to the end—I spoke to her before the Alvaro Castagnet workshops which she and Dr. Ken were keen to visit but, to her dismay, she wasn't well enough to attend. We had a lovely chat on the phone which included comparing mince pie recipes of all things, but that was so typical—she was a wonderful, down to earth lady—a “lady” in all aspects of the word. We will miss her.....

Thank you to everyone who filled in and returned the surveys that were sent out before Christmas. We had a remarkable response with some excellent suggestions and ideas put forward. It has taken 2 sessions with Annette Wallman, Penny Maddison, Stephanie Boyle and myself going through every response to every question ending in a draft plan for the future which the committee will be discussing then presenting to the next meeting. Please don’t be alarmed at the prospect—I have to admit I was daunted by the idea at first but I can absolutely assure you, this has been a hugely worthwhile exercise. We have taken note of your responses and rather than drastic changes, improvements and a fine tuning of the way that we do things will be proposed — as recommended by you, the members.

I have to say a huge thankyou to Annette Wallman who is the author, trainer and driving force behind our “Strategic Planning” - including the survey. We are incredibly fortunate to have a Secretary who has brought such skills to the Society which will ensure that we continue to move forward in the right direction — and she is one amazing artist too!!

The success of the Society continues with yet another invitation to take part in an International Exhibition hosted by the Italian Watercolour Society (AIA) opening at the beginning of October. However, this exhibition is no ordinary exhibition—it is to celebrate their 40th Anniversary so we are indeed privileged to be invited to join in their celebrations. We have been invited to submit 7 paintings—full details including exhibition rules are on page 3.

Unfortunately, due to work commitments, Tony Taylor has resigned from the committee. Tony has been an active member of the committee for the past 4 years and we are very sorry to see him go. It has been a real pleasure working with Tony and I would like to say a huge thank you for all his involvement, support and enthusiasm throughout the past 4 years. A hard act to follow but if any member would like to join the committee—we are a hard-working bunch of committed members who are constantly thinking of new ways to promote, entertain and improve the Society! We meet on the first Friday of each month so please speak to Annette Wallman or myself if you are interested.

Happy painting everyone!

Sue Payne
President

“Every artist dips his brush in his own soul, and paints his own nature into his pictures.”

Henry Ward Beecher
We were devastated to learn that on Saturday, 18th January, 2014 our admired and revered Patron, Mrs Julie Michael, had passed away. Mrs Michael had been battling illness for many years, enduring many bouts of chemotherapy throughout the time she was our Patron.

But Julie Michael continued to support the WSWA wherever and whenever she could and we admired her sense of commitment to her undertaking — in her own words “I take my job very seriously.” She was an inspiring, friendly, encouraging and loyal Patron who possessed that rare ability to interact socially with grace and ease and to make us feel comfortable in her presence. Her words of encouragement, her love of art and her obvious pride in our Society’s achievements were some of the qualities that endeared her to those who met and knew her.

Our hearts go out to Dr. Ken and his family—he was always by her side at our functions, supporting her and every bit as enthusiastic about the Society as Julie was.

She will be missed as a dear friend and Patron by each and every one of us.............

Penny Maddison will be raffling one of her small paintings at the February meeting to raise some funds for a young family who lost their home in the recent hills bushfires. Naomi and her husband were at Kalamunda High School with Penny’s eldest daughter Kathy.

They have worked away for years to raise the money for their home and had only moved in in mid December! They lost everything. They have a 3 year old daughter. Penny will bring in 3 framed paintings and the winner can pick which one they prefer. They are valued between $300- $400. Tickets will be $5.

Lorraine Gardner won the Rural Art Section at the Wanneroo Show in November. Lorraine's painting wins automatic entry into the Perth Royal Show.

Sue Payne won first prize in the Watercolour Painting section and also the Wanneroo Heritage Art Award for the Best Exhibit overall.

Jo Haynes was awarded an ‘Award of Excellence 2013’ at Canning Art Group's Awards of Excellence 2013

Jan Pittman won two 1st prizes, 1 x 2nd prize and 1 x 3rd prize at the Gidgegannup Show 2013 (plus one of them will be at the Royal Show next year as the Gidge Ag Society’s entry in the Rural Art Award.)
Milan - here we come!

40 years of Watercolour - International Watercolour Exhibition
"Images of Water"

We are very honoured to have once again been invited by the Italian Watercolour Society (AIA) to take part in their International Watercolour Exhibition—this time to celebrate their 40th Anniversary.

The Exhibition will be held in Milan, at the Milan Aquarium from 2nd to 26th October and this year the exhibition has a theme — “Images of Water”

We have been invited to submit 7 paintings which are required to be sent to Milan to arrive by the end of March. Members who wish to submit a painting will need to bring them along, unframed, without a mount, to the General Meeting on 18th March where a selection will take place—the method of selection will be decided by the committee and announced at the meeting on 18th February. The selected paintings will then be sent to Italy immediately after the meeting.

**General rules are:**

Only pure watercolour—no ink, gouache etc.
Minimum size—half sheet—50cms x 35cms
Maximum size—full sheet—76cms x 56cms

Entry forms will be available at the February and March meetings and should be attached to the back of the painting. Or, please contact Sue Payne (payne.susan@gmail.com) 9405 8564 who will send you details.

There will be 150 paintings altogether from Italy and other invited countries but members are advised that this is an exhibition in the true sense of the word - if a member of the public is interested in buying a painting, the AIA will put them in direct contact with the artist.

Get those brushes going!!

City of Milan  Photographs from the About Milan website aboutmilan.com

Jackson’s Discount Cards for 2014 will be available at the February meeting. Members who receive the Newsletter by mail will have their discount cards included in the envelope.

The remainder will be posted out to members. Jacksons will honour the 2013 cards until the end of February.

Please let Sue Payne know if you still have not received your card by the end of February.
March 11th - 16th at the Wanneroo Cultural Centre, 3 Rocca Way, Wanneroo
There are still a few places available in the first and second workshops only:

Tuesday 11th -Wednesday 12th March - Creative Watercolour inc mixed media
Tap into your imaginative minds to push the boundaries of the Wonderful Watercolour medium. You will be shown many techniques using a diverse range of materials and mediums as well as drawing from your own subject material. You will experiment with different applications to create exciting effects. This is an enticing way to explore and see varying magical outcomes with a difference.

Thursday 13th - Friday 14th March - Floral Exploration
Exciting Watercolours on Yupo and Watercolour Canvas. Watch the magic of Watercolour take on a magical journey, slipping and sliding across the surface of the Yupo. While this method takes on a life of its own, you, the creative artist contain and manipulate it to form the Floral subject you had in mind. You will see the beautiful coloured pigments mixing themselves and be shown how to control it into your specific design.

With the lovely fine linen feel of the Watercolour Canvas you will get to see the wonderful layers of colours build up by working light to dark. If you have a fear of losing your whites, never fear again. You will be shown the different methods of pulling the colour out to retrieve the white of the canvas. Both of these unique examples of laying down Watercolours, will open up new and exciting possibilities for you to experiment and develop your own artworks. With some striking floral subjects to work with you will be guaranteed to have a fabulous workshop full of creativeness and fun. Remember you are only limited by your own imagination........

Hours: 10.00—4.00 with half hour lunch (Elixir cafe is in the building or byo)
Morning and afternoon tea provided
$130 for a 2-day workshop

Please contact Sue Payne  payne.susan@gmail.com / 94058564 / 0402521144 to book your place. $50 deposit will secure your place, balance to be paid to Ella Fagence 9328 7259 by 1st March

www.juliegoldspink.com.au
We are fortunate to have Greg Allen coming to Perth in May to run some workshops for the Watercolour Society of WA members. The workshops will be for intermediate to advanced watercolour painters, and subjects will include landscapes, seascapes, portraits, buildings, and studying things like light, shadow etc in more detail. The venue and cost will be advised but will be similar to what we’ve experienced before, depending on class numbers.

Renata Wright is in the process of starting flight, venue, and accommodation arrangements etc but would like an expression of interest from members who think they would like to attend Greg's workshops. The workshops will be held from Monday 05 May to Friday 09 May (although one or two days may change on either side of this).

Below are some images of Greg's work, along with a short Youtube clip you may like to watch.

For now, can you please email (renatawrightart@yahoo.com.au) if you are interested in attending. As soon as Renata has expressions of interest, she will be able to advise venue and cost. 0450 524 229 or 6140 6149  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=42kgaga3FP0

Aurelie’s Solo Exhibition

Aurelie’s exhibition at the Gallows Gallery in Mosman Park in January was a huge success with sales of 15 paintings.

There were many watercolours in the display as well as oils. A wonderful range of Aurelie’s work.

On opening night Aurelie was thrilled to welcome the many friends and supporters who came to see the exhibition.
News of Members

Beni Wright has had an article published in the “Australian Artist” January edition.

Her granddaughter who is 8 years old, has a pennant poster flying in Scarborough Beach Rd in the main drag at Mt Hawthorn, opposite all the shops. She won this honour with a dozen others, out of all the youngsters of school age in the State. The Mayor of Vincent, and Member of Parliament came to her school and presented her with the award....For once she was floored..........She has won a few other art orientated prizes for her paintings.

Next Meeting

DATE : Tuesday 18th February, Rotary Hall, Sandgate St, South Perth
TIME : 9.30 am exchange of books, DVDs, videos from the library
       10.00 am Meeting commences.

GUEST HOUR : It’s Bring and Buy day, so don’t forget to bring your items to sell and your cash to buy. There will be plenty of goodies to choose from.

11.30am Following the Bring and Buy there will be a presentation by representatives of Shen Yun Performing Arts, who will be performing in Perth in early May.

They will give you a truly inside look about the essence of traditional Chinese culture

Basically, they will talk about:

1. What is the essence of traditional Chinese culture.
2. The destruction of traditional Chinese culture
3. Traditional Chinese culture Renaissance Shen Yun respresents

Shen Yun Performing Arts, formerly known as Divine Performing Arts, is a performing-arts and entertainment company based in New York. It performs classical Chinese dance, ethnic and folk dance, and story-based dance, with orchestral accompaniment and solo performers.

Contacts

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THANK YOU !!

The Watercolour Society of WA wishes to sincerely thank the following for their generosity as sponsors of this exhibition.

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