



Wildlife and Botanical Artists (ACT)

• NEWSLETTER •

May 2005

• SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION • *'The Art of Nature'*

Our sixth annual exhibition was opened on Saturday 23 April by Jim Croft (Deputy Director of Science and Information, Australian National Botanic Gardens, and Program Leader for the Australian National Herbarium, Centre for Plant Biodiversity Research) in front of an estimated crowd of 60 members, relatives, friends and visitors.

The judges were Jim Croft, Penny Olsen (Wildlife Consultant, Division of Botany & Zoology, ANU, author of 'Feather and Brush: three centuries of Australian bird art', and heavily involved with Birds Australia) and Lex Beardsley (mature-age Honours Graduate from ANU Art School, with a science background, and prizewinning artist). Unfortunately Penny and Lex couldn't attend the opening, however they passed on their comments and critiques. The judges all agreed that it was a very difficult task, especially trying to choose between 'scientific' and 'painterly' interpretations of wildlife and botanical subjects. However, they did manage to come up with a list of well-deserved prizewinners.

This is the first year that WABA has been in a position to contribute awards. The winners for the Overall WABA Award and the People's Choice Award each receive a monetary prize along with a gift voucher from The Art Store.

The standard and quality of entries was very high. Well done to all members who entered.

A huge thank you to our sponsors, without whom the exhibition awards would not be possible:

The Art Store
Australian Reptile Centre
The Botanical Bookshop
Australian Museum
Australian Native Plant Society

CONGRATULATIONS to the following prize winners!

Wildlife Award – Frances McMahon

Highly Commended Wildlife Award – Margaret Carr

Botanical Award – Di Stockbridge

Highly Commended Botanical Award – Isla Patterson

Photography Award – Lyn Randall

Encouragement Award Wildlife – Dorothea Kossmann

Encouragement Award Botanical – Cheryl Hodges

Australian Native Plant Society Award – Halina Steele

Overall WABA Award – Janet Twigg-Patterson

The *People's Choice Award* will be awarded on 29 May at the end of the exhibition – so get out to Tidbinbilla and vote for YOUR favourite!

Many thanks and appreciation to the following people who helped make the exhibition opening such a wonderful success:

Jim Croft for judging, opening the exhibition and for presenting prizes;

Penny Olsen and Lex Beardsley for judging;

And, due to a glitch in the system, the Tidbinbilla Rangers who picked the winner for the Australian Native Plant Society Award;

Peter, the Head Ranger, for being on hand to present prizes;

The staff at Tidbinbilla Visitor Centre - Veronica, Lana and Lyn - for helping to make the exhibition run smoothly, and for the great cappuccinos!

WABA members who kindly went to the trouble to 'bring a plate' for afternoon tea. Everyone appreciated the effort and, along with a glass of wine, it made for a very enjoyable afternoon in the sunshine; and Belinda Ingram, Di Mortimer, Robyn Hanigan, Alison Bradney and Janet Twigg-Patterson for doing a terrific job of hanging the paintings.

• **NEXT MEETING** •

Monday 9 May - 7.30pm
Hughes Community Centre

**Workshop – ‘Make your own pastels’ with
Belinda Ingram**

Please bring the following items:

apron or shirt
plastic ice-cream lid
some newspaper (to catch the mess!)
disposable gloves
palette knife or plastic knife
plastic spoon
spray bottle with water

Everything else, including pigments, will be supplied.

Remember - \$2 for supper; donations of prizes for the raffle; \$1 per raffle ticket

• **UPCOMING WORKSHOPS** •

Birds with Helen Fitzgerald

Hughes Community Centre

Saturday 28 May – 9.30am-4pm

Cost: \$112 (members); \$122 (non-members)

BYO lunch + \$2 for tea/coffee

BYO drawing and/or painting materials.

There are still places available for this workshop, so if you are interested please contact Robyn Hanigan on 6254 4038 ASAP. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn the skills of drawing and painting our feathered friends from a well-known local artist. **Unfortunately, if enough people don't register, the workshop will have to be cancelled. So, if you know of anyone who might be interested (non-members are welcome to register) please encourage them to come along.**

• **NEW MEMBERS** •

☺ **A very warm welcome to the following new members:**

Marjorie Roche

Helen Fallows

Katrine Scott-Findlay

Cheryl Hodges

Cathy Hutton

• **EXHIBITIONS** •

**When in Hillston (western NSW) call in at the
RED DUST and PADDY MELONS
COMMUNITY GALLERY
for quality Arts and Crafts!**

For more information call Jo Coleman 02 6967 2458 or Catherine Byrne 02 6967 2776.
(Jo and Catherine are both WABA members)

• **OUR WEBSITE** •

www.wba.asn.au

We are still looking for a new webmaster. Please let one of the Committee Members know if you, or someone you know, might be interested in taking on the job. It is not an onerous task, probably only a couple of hours a month, if that, however some skills and/or knowledge of web design and/or html would be an advantage!

• **CHINA TRIP NO. 2** •

Janet Twigg-Patterson had 2½ weeks of fast-forward travel in China recently, with 14 other artists from Melbourne. These artists are practiced in the Ling Nan style of Chinese brush painting, which is a different style to Janet's. They exhibited their works in Nanjing and Hong Kong, and also traveled to Huang Shan (Yellow Mountain). Fruitful discussions and constructive criticism were had while visiting other artists. After 30 years of practicing Chinese brush painting Janet finally got a tick and a gold star from Mr Fo, a famous artist in Shanghai!

• **COMMITTEE CONTACTS** •

President: Gerry Heyen 6259 6409
gerry.heyen@immi.gov.au

Vice Presidents: Janet Twigg-Patterson 6287 2086

Belinda Ingram 6286 1754

Secretary: Alison Bradney 6251 2364

Treasurer: Di Mortimer 62313040

Exhibitions Co-ordinator:

Belinda Ingram 6287 2086

Workshop Co-ordinator:

Robyn Hanigan 6254 4038

Newsletter Editor/Public Relations:

Glenda Shelley 6259 0982

gshelley@actewagl.net.au

Social Director: Shelley Cannon 6281 5407