



Wildlife and Botanical Artists (ACT)

• NEWSLETTER •

April 2004

• AGM •

Dear Members

Recently a new WABA Committee was nominated and accepted at an Extraordinary Annual General Meeting of WABA on 8 March 2004 at the Australian National Botanic Gardens.

The new Committee is presented below. It still retains former Committee members but there have been several positional changes. Janet Twigg-Patterson resigned her position as WABA President and the new President is Gerry Heyen. Julia Landford resigned her position as Vice-President. Janet and Belinda Ingram were voted in as joint Vice-Presidents and it is good to know their experience and expertise is still available.

The present Committee has met once and all members are enthusiastic about the opportunities that lie ahead for botanic and wildlife artists. Several WABA exhibitions have been planned for 2004, so there will be an ongoing need for paintings, photos and other artworks. The Committee will also be endeavouring to arrange workshops, fieldtrips and other educational and social forums to brighten the spark of WABA's artistic talent.

At this moment there is a wonderful opportunity for members to display their works on Australian flora and fauna in the WABA exhibition at the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve. In addition we have an exhibition at Namadgi National Park coming up and the Annual Exhibition at Rydges Hotel. There is also the WABA website and various competitions.

These opportunities allow members to pursue an artistic genre that provides an exquisite array of subjects and contributes to the overall beauty of artistic expression. WABA is an art society that wants members to share and enjoy their creativity, and learn from fellow artists. To this end I hope all members will be encouraged to explore and expand their talents.

Gerry Heyen

THE ART STORE

Two vouchers have been included with this newsletter, so get in quick for special discounts on paper at the Phillip and Braddon stores.

Valid til 30 April.



Outgoing President Janet Twigg-Patterson presents a cheque for \$3,030.90 to Monica Murani, Head Ranger, Tidbinbilla.

The AGM was enjoyed by all who attended. WABA member, Dawn Grey, said the evening walk was delightful, the volunteer guides were great, and the catering for supper was fantastic. Many thanks to Belinda Ingram's daughter Jessica for preparing a delicious spread!

The talk by Monica Murani, Head Ranger at Tidbinbilla, was extremely interesting. She spoke about the continuing breeding programs of the wallabies and the corroboree frogs. It was particularly enlightening to hear about their special technique for finding frogs – a loud yell of “FROG!” that threatens male frogs into calling back! She also told of ‘Lucky’ the koala, who was so badly injured in the fire, and her incredible recovery. Please see the letter from Maxine Cooper included with this newsletter – and find out what our donation is being used for.

• NEXT MEETING •

7.30pm - Monday 19 April - Hughes Community Centre.

This meeting will be a practical ‘autumn’ theme, so bring along subjects such as autumn leaves, berries, fruits or nuts to draw or paint.

Reminder: please bring \$2 (to cover costs for room hire and supper). We also hold a raffle at each meeting (raffle tickets \$1 each) so think about donating a small gift as a raffle prize eg. Jam, wine, soap, candles, notebooks,

• **EXHIBITIONS** •

Tidbinbilla

Although the official opening date is still to be decided, the exhibition is unofficially underway, with three paintings having been sold in the first week! Jann, Belinda and Jerry hung the paintings on 27 March, and by all accounts they look terrific! People who buy paintings will be able to take them immediately, therefore we need more paintings to replace them.

Paintings should be delivered to:

**Jann Ollerenshaw, 15 Ulm Street, Scullin
Phone 6254 7502.**

Artwork should preferably depict subjects pertaining to Tidbinbilla ie. Flora/fauna found in the area, although this is not absolutely necessary. Commission - 25% with 15% going to Tidbinbilla. **NB:** Insurance of artworks is the responsibility of the artist.

Thank you to everyone who supported me in putting together the many exhibitions WABA has held over the last few years. I hope the same support will be shown to Jann Ollerenshaw, our new Exhibitions Coordinator.
Belinda Ingram ☺

Nature's Palette

24 April – 22 May 2004

**Yarralumla Gallery, Weston Park Rd,
Yarralumla**

Official opening 24 April 3.30pm – all WABA members welcome.

Nature's Palette is an exhibition of paintings by Dianne Alder, Beth Monahan and Arlene Williams. The artists have drawn their inspiration from the marvels of the natural world around them to present paintings of forests, flowers, birds, coastal scenery and other landscapes.

The Waterhouse Natural History Art Prize 2004

7 August – 12 Sept

South Australian Museum, Adelaide

Entries close 28 May

For further details, including entry form and rules, see the website: www.thewaterhouse.com.au or contact the Exhibition Co-ordinator, Mark Judd on (08) 8207 7421

Fax: (08) 8203 9805

Email: judd.mark@saugov.sa.gov.au

• **UPCOMING WORKSHOPS** •

DR HELEN HEWSON

Saturday 1 May – 1.30pm to 4.30pm

Sunday 2 May – 9.30am to 4.00pm

Venue: Australian National Botanic Gardens

Cost: \$50

Please bring your own equipment, including hand lens and needles for dissecting. Microscopes will be available for use on the Sunday.

For further information or bookings please contact Robyn Hanigan 6254 4038.

• **OUR WEBSITE** •

www.wba.asn.au

Please contact Denise Sutherland on 6288 1418 or email contact@sutherland-studios.com.au if you would like to have your work, CV and/or contact details included on our website.

• **COMMITTEE CONTACTS** •

President: Gerry Heyen 6259 6409

Vice Presidents: Janet Twigg-Patterson

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Secretary: Alison Bradney 6251 2364

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If you haven't bought a WABA mug yet, they will be for sale at the next meeting for only \$6!