



Artie Facts #31

March/April 2025

Newsletter of Bairnsdale & District Arts Society Inc

“L'Allee des Alyscamps” Paul Gauguin 1888

Seiji Togo Memorial Sompo, Japan Museum of Art, Tokyo

What's inside

From the president	1
Art for collection	1
Vale Deb Gray	2
Deb's book	2
Notice board: Increase in cost of classes, Yarram Rotary Art Show, 2025 Lindenow Arts Ink Exhibition, Critiquing our art, BADAS Spring Art Show, 3 Month Challenge	3
Plein Air Report	4
Lyn Diefenbach Workshop report	4
Workshops 2025	5, 6
Stories behind Uniquely Named Colours	6
Stolen painting found	7
Committee details	7
Workshop Booking Form	8

ART FOR COLLECTION

If you had work displayed on the walls of the Arts Society they have all been taken down ready for the 3 Month Challenge display. Please come and take them home.

Also art works displayed at the Forge Theatre have been returned and are available for your collection please.

From the President

It has been a sad time for us due to the sudden passing of committee member, Deb Gray. Those who knew Deb are aware of what a special person she was in so many ways. A vale notice for Deb is on page 2.

So far so good; our application for the federal Government's "Stronger Communities Program Round 9" was approved by MP Darren Chester. The next stage is for our Project Manager Gael to complete a lengthy application. Fingers crossed that we are successful this time. We must be the only community organisation in town without a disabled toilet and we've been trying for years to have one installed. From her hospital bed Deb spent considerable time bending Darren's ear about the importance of us receiving this grant.

Meanwhile your Art Show sub-committee has been planning a Spring Art Show for you, to be held in October. Brief advanced notice on Noticeboard on page 3.

Applications for our first Three Month Challenge have now closed and we thank you for your entry. Art will be displayed on our walls until 11th April. If you had art hanging on our walls it has been taken down and is ready for you to collect.

Your committee has agreed that it's time for our tutors to have a pay increase as they have been receiving \$10 per session for over 10 years. Considering all the time and effort they put into planning and preparing lessons for you it's the least we can do for them. Commencing from the beginning of Term 2, fees for tutored classes will be \$20, \$15 for the tutor and \$5 for the Arts Society. Kids Art remains at \$10 per child.

Lastly there is a full list of our workshops for 2025 [p. 5/6] so you can decide which you would like to attend.

Regards

Jenni

VALE

Deb Gray

28th January 1957 – 9th March 2025



Deb was a valued member of our committee and attended classes every week. She also attended weekend workshops at times. We loved the way she always hopped in and helped when she could.

Much has been written and spoken about Deb recently.

Those who knew her admired her compassion, kindness, resilience, determination and wicked sense of humour.

Although dealt a poor hand at birth, Deb always made the best of her own circumstances. She also spent a great deal of time advocating for other disabled people by lobbying politicians and public servants, attending conferences and writing letters. She never backed down.

She endured a constant fight with bureaucracy herself regarding funding for her own transport and had to reapply every year which was unfair and ridiculous.

Those who have read her book received a glimpse into her private world and realise how frustrated she was because she was never taken seriously as an employee and had so many skills to offer. However, she was always welcomed as a volunteer! In recent years she loved being associated with Noweyung and the Arts Society. She said to me "Do you think anyone will read my book Jen?" Well its now into its 3rd print run I'm pleased to say.

Deb lived life to the full and had an amazing range of friends and acquaintances from every part of the community many of whom turned up for her funeral and wake.

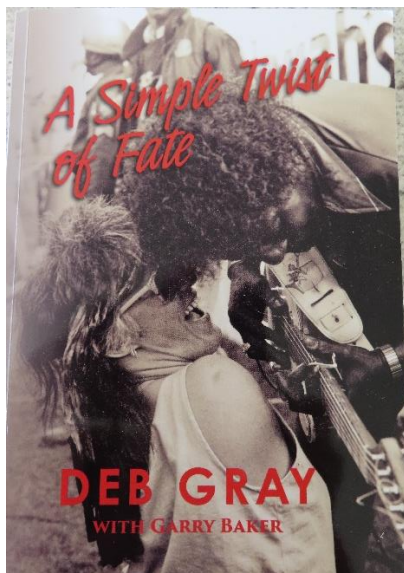
Some Art Society members farewelled her at her funeral at Lakes Entrance on Tuesday in a packed church.

A lovable character, Deb made a positive impression on everyone she met and will be greatly missed. RIP Deb.

This floral tribute sent by the Arts Society was on the sign in table at the church>



DEB'S BOOK



When Deb Gray was born, her parents were urged to put her in an institution and forget her. They didn't. 'She's our little girl and we're taking her home,' her mother said. And they did. An act of love and courage, not that they saw it that way.

The Gippsland fisherman's daughter had no arms and only tiny legs. She seemed a textbook example of the most catastrophic form of injury inflicted on unborn babies by the German-made drug Thalidomide, briefly used for morning sickness in the late 1950s and early 1960s. But she had been conceived in 1956, well before the drug was prescribed in Australia — and before any known Thalidomide victims were born outside Germany.

So there seemed to be no agreed scientific reason for Deb's injuries, and nothing or no one to blame. She decided as a teenager that her body was 'a simple twist of fate.' Life would be what she made it. She tackled it fiercely and on her own terms: working, swimming, travelling the world, attending rock concerts, driving fast, looking for love and meaning. Against the odds, she survived to tell her story.

This is it.

Available from
Lakes Books & Games
563 Esplanade, Lakes Entrance
Phone: 5155 2618



INCREASE IN COST OF TUTORED CLASSES

Commencing at the beginning of Term 2, tutored classes will cost \$20 per session.

Monday and Thursday social sessions remain at \$5 and Kids' Art is still \$10.

YARRAM ROTARY ART SHOW

Paintings entered in this show may be left at the Art Society for collection on Wednesday 16th April between 10am and 12 midday.

Unsold items will be returned on Tuesday 22nd April. Please collect them promptly.



CRITIQUING OUR ART

On the 4th Monday each month there will be a critiquing session commencing at 2pm. Bring along your art and a plate of afternoon tea and we'll review your art in a social and encouraging environment. First session will be Monday 28th April 2025.



3 MONTH CHALLENGE

Summer

Works will be on display from Monday March 24th until Friday 11th April during opening hours. Vote for your favourite work – 1 vote per person only. Peoples' choice decides the 2 prize winners. Winners announced at a Social Evening on Friday 11th April at 6pm. **BYO drinks and nibbles.** Please contact Lyn Springle if you will be attending the Social evening. Thank you Fiona Venables for this concept.

Advanced notice



BADAS SPRING ART SHOW

Open to all artists

Opening Friday 10th October
Open Saturday 11th – Sunday 12th October
At St John's Hall Bairnsdale

Artie Fact #31 was created and produced for BADAS by Jenni Staniforth 0435 344 847

Email: artsocietyemail@gmail.com

PLEIN AIR REPORT - March

Plein Air Report April 15th

A small group of us were welcomed by Shirley to her wonderful property on Mt Lookout Rd Ellaswood, where we were treated to a most spectacular example of a "rural garden" spread out over about 2.0 Ha. The variety of plants is amazing as is Shirley's energy and enthusiasm.

We had to search for some shade to set up although Oi Lin was up to painting in direct sunlight, for a while. After lunch on the "Champagne deck" we enjoyed a tour of the house and Shirley's art collection, including many of her daughter's works.

Returning to our easels (after a long break), we battled on in the heat and rising humidity for an hour or so before calling it quits.

Thanks to Fiona for organising the day, including carrot cake and slice (more please), and Shirley for inviting us. We have been invited back in a couple of months to enjoy her "winter" blooms.

John Griffiths, Plein Air Convenor 0417 316 192



Fiona sizing it up



Looking across to the house



Finished

Due to Easter, the next paint out will be held on Saturday 26th April at a venue to be decided.

LYN DIEFENBACH WORKSHOP REPORT – Barbara Jones



All of us who registered to join Lyn Diefenbach's workshop have had an amazing weekend.

We have all come away with more knowledge and appreciation of the skills from a Master Artist like Lyn.

Lyn was very generous with her time spent with each of us individually and her delightful, laid back manner made the whole weekend unforgettable.



Thank you to all who attended too for being a very fun group and encouraging each other. A big thank you to Barbara who drove to the airport to collect and return Lyn. [Ed]

WORKSHOPS FOR 2025

We have decided to open up bookings for all the workshops planned for 2025. We normally would book one at a time, however by giving notice of what is coming up, it gives members time to consider which ones they would like to attend. We have several excellent workshops coming up so we encourage you to get in early to avoid missing out.

It also means that we can cancel workshops if there isn't enough interest and let the artist know in plenty of time and not at the last minute.

Bookings can be made by contacting Barbara Jones on 0430 316 577 or email barbyjones1954@yahoo.com.au

MAY

24th and 25th May, 2025 – 9:30 am to 4pm

WENDI LEIGH

Maximum 12 students

Fee: \$150

Medium to be determined

Wendi is an excellent artist and her work is able to be viewed on her website at wendileighart.com

Wendi holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Wollongong and has entered and won art/photographic competitions over many years.

Materials list will be provided by Wendi An example of Wendi's work>



JUNE

16th, 23rd, 30th, and 7th June, 2025

JAN LONG

Open first to those who have not attended a Painting Class with Jan previously.

Fee \$100

Painting any medium

Maximum 15 Students

Jan is a well known local Artist. Skilled in many different mediums.

An example of Jan's work



JULY

5th and 6th July, 2025

JANET MATTHEWS

Coloured Pencil

Maximum 12 Students

Fee: \$200

Janet is renowned for her work in Coloured Pencils.

Janet will supply a materials list and reference.

An example of Janet's work

AUGUST

30th and 31st August, 2025

DAVID TAYLOR

Maximum 12 Students

Fee: \$200

Watercolour

David is a world renowned Watercolour Artist. David conducted a workshop at BADAS in 2024 however many members were unable to book in to the limited number of places. Bookings will be open to those who missed out last time, first.



If you missed out last time, get in quick so that the bookings can be finalised. David's classes are always popular and full of fun.

An example of David's work

OCTOBER

18th and 19th October, 2025

JAN LONG

Maximum 12 Students

Fee: \$200

OPEN to all Members

Jan's popularity as a well known local artist is evident by the many who have attended her classes and still want to attend whenever she is teaching.

Jan will teach any medium over this weekend focusing on Creatures.



The Stories Behind Uniquely Named Colors

Indigo

Means "Indian," because the dye was imported from India.

Azure

A misspelling of the Medieval Latin word *lazur*, meaning "lapis lazuli."

Cerulean

From the Latin word *caelum*, meaning "sky" or "heaven."

Teal

Originally referred to a small freshwater duck that has a similar green-blue color on its head.

Viridian

From the Latin word *viridis*, which could mean "green," "fresh," "youthful," or "blooming."

Kelly Green

The color was associated with Ireland, and *Kelly* is a common Irish last name.

Mauve

From the French word for the mallow plant, which had similar purple markings on its petals.

Orchid

The flower name comes from the Greek word for "testicle," due to the round shape of the roots.

Periwinkle

The word for its namesake plant comes from Latin *pervincere*, or "to entwine," due to how it grows.

Turquoise

Means "Turkish" in Old French because the mineral came to Europe through Turkey.

Aquamarine

Translates to "sea water" in Latin.

Magenta

Named in honor of a battle during the Second Italian War of Independence.

Porcelain

From Latin for "young pig" since the ceramic had a luster like shells which resembled pig vaginas.

Alabaster

As a Latin word, it referred to a type of box used to hold perfumes and unguents.

Beige

Has historically referred to the color of wool. Traces to Ancient Greek *byssos*, meaning "linen."

Khaki

Traces to the Persian word *khak*, meaning "dusty" or "earth-colored."

Chartreuse

After a liqueur produced in a monastery called *La Grande-Chartreuse*.

Fuchsia

After a plant which was named for a German botanist called Leonhart Fuchs.

Scarlet

From Old French *escarlate*, which could refer to any brightly colored cloth.

Vermillion

Means "small worm" in Latin because the dye was originally obtained from worms.

Orange

The color comes from the fruit, which traces to Sanskrit *naranga*, the name of the orange tree.

Amber

The word for the resin derived from *ambergris*, the waxy material secreted by sperm whales.

Taupe

From a French word meaning "moleskin," because it was thought to look similar.

Burgundy

After a region of France producing a wine of that color. Ultimately from a Latin word for "highlander."

Crimson

Ultimately from a Persian word meaning "worm-colored," in reference to how it was made.

Persimmon

The name for its eponymous fruit comes from a Powhatan word meaning "he dries berries."

Tangerine

The color was named after the fruit, which was imported to the UK through the port of *Tangier*.

Umber

Either from the Italian region of *Umbria* or from the Latin word *umber*, meaning "shadow."

Sienna

Named after the city-state in Italy where the pigment was first produced.

Maroon

Comes from a French word for "chestnut."

Auburn

From Latin *albus*, meaning "white," but influenced by Middle English *brun*, meaning "brown."

Ochre

Derives from the Greek word *khros*, meaning "pale yellow."

Sepia

From Latin for "cuttlefish," since the color came from the secretions of the mollusk.

[Thanks to artist Kate Jenvey for this]



Nothing was heard of Gustav Klimt's Portrait of a Lady after it was stolen nearly 23 years ago from a modern art gallery in Piacenza, northern Italy. There seemed little prospect of the masterpiece, valued at €60m (£50m; \$66m), ever being found.

That was until a worker clearing ivy from the wall of the gallery where it was stolen stumbled on a metal panel. Behind it lay a recess, within which was a black bag containing what appeared to be the missing painting.

Checks are still being carried out on the recovered work, which has been handed to police. But gallery director Massimo Ferrari is confident the original has been found, because it has the same stamps and sealing wax on the back of the painting. Police are investigating whether the thieves had left the painting hidden with the aim of removing it when worldwide media attention moved away from one of the most notorious art thefts in years.

Portrait of a Lady was painted in 1916-17 by Viennese artist Gustav Klimt towards the end of his life. Klimt was part of a radical group of artists called the Secession and many of his works featured expressive and sexually evocative paintings of women. What was extraordinary about Portrait of a Lady was that, 10 months before it was stolen, art student Claudia Maga spotted that it had been painted over another Klimt painting, Portrait of a Young Lady, which had not been seen since 1912.

2024/25 COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT Jenni Staniforth	0435 344 847	stani21@iprimus.com.au	Classes, newsletter
VICE PRESIDENT John Griffiths	0417 316 192	jmgriff1000@outlook.com	Maintenance, hiring. Plein Air, OH & S
SECRETARY Laima Gascoigne	0419 309 489		
TREASURER Margaret Nowell	0438 250 460	BadasTreasurer@outlook.com	Membership List
COMMITTEE			
Gillian Banks			Contemporary Art tutor
Betty Du Ve			Historian & Archivist
Sue Ffrench	0438 701 005		Kid's Art
Annick Goodrich			First Aid supplies
Barbara Jones	0430 316 577	barbyjones1954@yahoo.com.au	Workshop Co-ordinator Painting tutor
Helen Kilpatrick			Keys
Gael Rand			Project Manager
Lyn Springle	0408 329 483		Social events
Fiona Venables			3 Month Art Challenge
Vivienne Willis			Purchasing Officer
LIFE MEMBERS	Audrey Taylor, Barry Doran [dec], Betty Du Ve, Julia Counsel, Carolyn Corr, Gael Rand, Margaret Lomas, Jenni Staniforth		