



# October— December 2019 newsletter

2019-101112

President	Ellen Jenkins	0432 438513
Vice President	Peter McGough	9432 0526
Treasurer	Rob Gardner	0417 576066
Member Sec.	Anna Dalton	0400 343859
Minutes Sec.	Anna Dalton	0400 343859
Secretary	Rob Macaulay	9439 7050
Newsletter Editor	Jo M Seymour	0409 411395
Show Convenor	Diane Gardner	0409 016695
Gen. Committee	Anna Dalton	0400 343859
Library Monitor		

A000 3655H - ABN 86 430 279 738

[www.dvartsociety.com.au](http://www.dvartsociety.com.au)

[admin@dvartsociety.com.au](mailto:admin@dvartsociety.com.au)

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## *A note from your president*

By now you will have heard the news about our lease ending with Greensborough Secondary College in April 2020. We are all very disappointed in this news, and devastated about what this means for our Society as it means we most likely will need to move to a new premises.

Myself and members of the committee have been working very hard to seek out an alternative, we have spent many, many hours calling, visiting and talking to people about ideas. So many venues are not suitable, or they cost too much, or they lack storage facilities, or they are not available. We have contacted all the members of parliament from all our council areas, and some we have met with. Whilst they are all sympathetic to our issue, their ideas and directions have also not panned out. We have contacted numerous places, council reps, local schools, halls, community centres, neighbourhood houses, disability services, scouts halls, churches, garden centres, club rooms, tertiary education organisations, and others as suggested. However nothing much has been our answer.

We do have two primary schools in the Nillumbik area who have been eager to have us on board, which we are investigating. Both have some promising aspects to their offer which is hopeful, and could be the answer to our dilemma, but the downside is the extra 15-30 minutes travel time for members on this side of town to get there.

We will keep you informed of our final decision. **Ellen**

All Correspondence:  
Box 171 Greensborough, Vic. 3088  
Location: Greensborough College,  
Nell Street, Greensborough  
Nell Street entrance.



## *A note from your editor*

Hi everyone, it was such a relief to get the last issue out and now have jumped right into the next one. This one will again contain three months worth of coverage. Please email me anything you would like to contribute to the next issue, as this is your newsletter, not just a record of my movements. We would love to hear about you and your art experiences. **Jo**

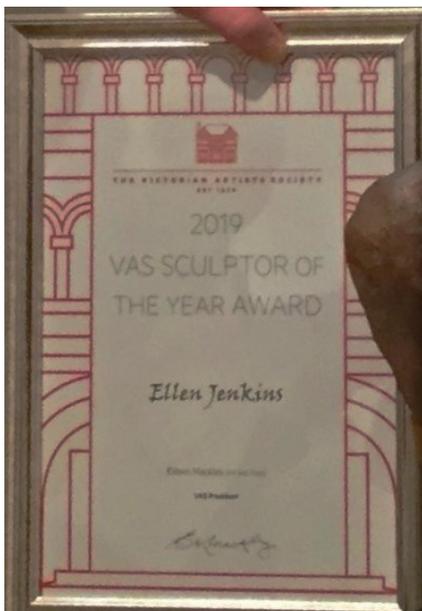


## *Ellen again recognised by the Victorian Artists Society for her Sculptural work.*

19th November, 2019. Another exciting win for our President Ellen. She was awarded VAS Sculptor of the Year for her piece called 'eddy'. We have watched Ellen create and carve and shape and smooth her wiry model for months and are so pleased to see her efforts being recognised for the amazing work she has produced. Brenda and I applauded very loudly as she accepted her award. Ellen also gave a speech and in that she addressed the inequality in prize awards between paintings and sculptures, as painters win a cash prize and sculptors do not.

Ellen was very pleased with her entries and was happy to pose by both her creations, as she had also entered the flock of sheep sculpture she had been working on simultaneously. The sheep sculpture was sold on the night.

Congratulations Ellen!



**Archibald Prize Exhibition—Tarrawarra Art Museum Yarra Valley—10th October**

As one of DVAS’s annual outings, we again hired a mini bus, and a small group of us travelled down to the lovely countryside of the Yarra Valley. I would like to say songs were sung and ditties recited, but this year’s group were more of the talking variety so a cacophony of chattering ensued. We stopped for our morning coffee at Yarra Glen and wandered the street to look at the ‘Not the Archies’ paintings on display in shop-fronts. Local community members and school children had painted people who were important to them and it was delightful to see a community embracing an artistic idea and displaying it so prominently. It was also great hearing our own DVAS members commenting on the structure and compositions of the paintings, in an artistic appreciation.

Back on the bus to head to Tarrawarra and there we spent an hour or so looking at and discussing the paintings that were this years finalists to the Archibald. We all had differing ideas and thoughts on who should have been the winning piece, and that added to the fun of the day. Cheerfully we then headed into Healesville for lunch and another wander of the streets. There are a couple of galleries in this town as well, so some of us made a point of visiting those.



A weary lot we were on the trip back, less of a clamour of voices, more of a murmur of happy tired travellers. Not only did we get to look at art, but we did it in good company!



**Floral Pastel demo and class with Giulianna –19th October**

As a follow up to her previous demo and class on using pastel, Giulianna demonstrated how to do a floral pastel

painting. We learnt about how to prepare the background, how to blend and shade and how to do flowers. We then had an opportunity to try it ourselves. We look forward to the next session.



**Kinglake Art Show: 24th November**

Mandy, Anna and I journeyed up the hill to browse the Kinglake Art Show, open to any artist to enter. A wide array of art pieces had been entered and lots of images and sculptures to talk about. I especially loved the watercolours. Julie, a local artist, was on duty and gave us some background to a few of the artists. Her work was on display also. With one, her canvas is first covered with bright colours, and then white is applied on top to create the negative space. We also stopped at the Kinglake artist and farmers market on the way, which was delightful.



## Tuesday painting group — November @ DVAS rooms



A lively group meet each Tuesday afternoon to paint and chat, with Neil as the group convenor. Any skill level,



any style, any medium, it is a great group to join if you want to paint in a social environment.



### Our Christmas Lunch @ Greensborough RSL

Sunday 1st December. Many of our members met at the RSL to share a meal and to spread Christmas cheer. It gave us a chance to catch up with each other and get an update from Ellen about our possible new premises at Wattle Glen.



## COMMITTEE MEETING OCT 2019

Here is a summary of the discussion points from the 17th October meeting:

- ◆ AGM planning for 8th November, Rob to email and post out the invites and documents
- ◆ Feedback on what Ellen and Di have been doing to find new premises, many places looked into with no success, and MP's contacted. One primary school has put forward a proposition, and will involve all members to get Working With Children Checks
- ◆ Discussion on feasibility of renting a space, budget wont stretch to what is on offer, unless we rent by the hour. This will impact on our community ambience.
- ◆ Sue O'brien has a broken shoulder bone, this will impact on her classes.

## COMMITTEE MEETING NOV 2019

Here is a summary of the discussion points from the 7th November meeting:

- ◆ AGM tomorrow, discussion about Presidents speech
- ◆ Discussion about new venue, still not found anything suitable
- ◆ Current membership is at 100 people
- ◆ Query about selling DVAS assets, this is not appropriate just yet as we have rules and guidelines on this, and there is not to be a 'feeding frenzy' of people taking



stuff in anticipation. Everything at the DVAS rooms is owned by DVAS or its members and discussions will need to happen about what is moved with us and what isn't.

- ◆ Banyule Christmas Carols Event are asking for paper chains, we will contribute
- ◆ Christmas lunch set for December 1st at Greensborough RSL

## COMMITTEE MEETING DEC 2019

Here is a summary of the discussion points from the 14th December meeting:

- ◆ Wattle Glen Primary School offer of two rooms has been tentatively accepted by Committee, with a few issues and concerns to be investigated. This involves storage, space for all kilns, checking of asbestos in kilns, ramps, key access and WWCC's.
- ◆ Currently have 103 members
- ◆ Email from Greensborough Secondary College advising of asbestos removal process over holiday break, and that we would not be able to access the rooms at all until the OHS final checks had been done. Rob will email this info out to all members, and we will write it up on all blackboards
- ◆ Should we do a media release about our end of lease? Anna to investigate
- ◆ DVAS website is looking out of date. Jo will focus on this in the new year once the newsletter publications have caught up.
- ◆ Discussion on new teachers and tutors for 2020, and new classes and workshops to add to timetable
- ◆ Discussion over next working bee and the process of moving and preparing new rooms
- ◆ Strategic Planning meeting to be held in January to plan positivity for our future.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*"The artist is a receptacle for emotions that come from all over the place: from the sky, from the earth, from a scrap of paper, from a passing shape, from a spider's web."* **Pablo Picasso**



*Save the Dates*  
**DVAS Art Show**  
**September 2020**  
**11th, 12th & 13th**



Our exhibition screens are available to hire. We have 25 black screens available, at \$13 a screen, and \$15 for the loan of a box of specialised hooks.

## Annual General Meeting—Friday 8th November

Mick Chick chaired the meeting, held in room 1 of DVAS rooms.

Mick explained the rules of this AGM, and asked for acceptance of last years minutes, which was confirmed with no changes required.

Presidents Report—Ellen started by summarising all of the events held by and at DVAS this year—Clean-Up day, Sue O'Brien's class, the International Flower and Garden Show, two pastel demonstrations by Giulianna del Popolo, a watercolour demo and class by Linda MacAulay, our Annual Art Show, the group trip to the Archibald Prize exhibition, and Emmy's sculpture portrait demo. Ellen then gave an extensive overview of what has happened since the news that our lease will cease in April 2020 as the school is going to refurbish or demolish the area where the rooms are. Ellen and Di started contacting all the other schools and halls in our area but nothing was available that met our needs. These were things such as: anytime access with our own set of keys, storage- places for the kiln and the pottery wheels, easels, our library of books and magazines. Most places only offered 'pay-by-the-hour' at a price we couldn't sustain. We did consider consolidating our timetable, however this may limit the variety of our classes.

Danielle Green, local MP, came to visit us and provided some positive ideas, such as accessing Diamond Creek Araluen and Diamond Creek senior citizen hall, however not all of these panned out. Many Pros and Cons. Kathy Thwaites was contacted, she suggested we find a place and she will support us in getting it, but her options again were not suitable. Tried scout halls, but they charge too much per hour and don't provide storage. She suggested we got a Patron. (any ideas?)

Places suggested and contacted—Greensborough Sports Pavilion, Creswell Church, garden centre in St Helena, Greensborough Masonic lodge, St Helliers in Heidelberg, Panaramo shopping centre in Monty, The Mall-Oriel Road, Fishing Club in Briar Hill, Rosanna Fire Station, Melbourne Polytechnic, Latrobe Uni-Urnest Jones Hall, shed near Eltham High, Eltham living and learning centre, Montmorency pigeon racing club, Men's Sheds, Monstalvat. Many reasons why not suitable —too expensive, no storage, no windows, too small, not available, no heating or cooling, in flood zone, no toilets, people not returning calls.

Hurstbridge Primary School are eager to support us, Principal has been very welcoming. Have a space for us, including storage, would require all of us to have a WWCC, and help out with some student activities occasionally. Concern about the distance, especially in the dark wet nights of winter. We will look into this offer more.

Questions from the attendees:

- ◆ Could we get a sponsor? *We would need someone for DVAS to dedicate some time into this*
- ◆ Have we contacted Mark Di Pasquale, Vicki Ward, Danielle Green, Ryan Crammer, Kate Thwaites, Colin Brookes? *Yes we have.*
- ◆ What about real estate agents? *Guilianna has rung a few who may have some suggestions, she will get back to us.*
- ◆ What is the issue with storage? *We really need storage, we have so much stuff, we need to decide what to keep, what to discard, what to sell.*
- ◆ Do we need to downsize? *Yes, we need to be efficient in how we do this.*
- ◆ Do we know when Grants are available? *We will look into this*
- ◆ Could we amalgamate with another arts society? *Ellen has had a conversation with Heidelberg Arts Society—may be happy to share premises but not amalgamate.*
- ◆ Could we try and renegotiate with Greensborough Secondary College? *We have tried through numerous avenues, but they are not willing to budge. They want to build a wall.*
- ◆ What about the building in Warringal Park? *Good idea, we will check it out.*
- ◆ Have we approached Banyule Council? *Yes we have.*

DVAS Christmas Party will be held at the Greensborough RSL on Sunday 1st December. Let us know ASAP if you want to go, Rob will email this information out. We will be hiring a big skip over December and January to start getting rid of stuff. Rob spoke about the Constitution, namely the part about the rules on not selling off assets to members if the society dissolves. Instead we would possibly have a relocating sale with proceeds going into the move. This will be discussed more at length in the months to come.

Treasurers report accepted. Secretaries report accepted. As at 30th June, there were 109 members, of these 27 new in that year and 10 who didn't renew. Currently (NOV) 100 members, 8 new since July and 15 not renewed.

Election of Officers—no new nominees. Acceptance of renewing current committee. Renominated and Accepted.

General Business:

- ◆ What about Streeton Primary or Norris bank Primary? *Rob has contacted many community centres, still an issue with availability and storage.*
- ◆ What about the Gems Club as they are looking for new rooms also? *We will look into that*
- ◆ Discussion on how we feel about Hurstbridge Primary. Travelling is a major issue
- ◆ Should we speak to the media, and also advertise in local papers that we need space? What about ringing Radio 3AW? Greensborough and Diamond Creek community pages. Channel 31. Plenty Valley Radio 88.6. *We could, but we would like some support from our members in this. Please let us know if you can help.*

◇ **Meeting declared closed at 8:16 pm. Thanks to Mick for keeping the meeting on track.**

If undeliverable return to  
 Diamond Valley Arts Society Inc.  
 PO Box 171 Greensborough

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Have a great holiday break, do things you enjoy, spend time with people who make you feel good, and eat lots.

See you next time! *Jo*

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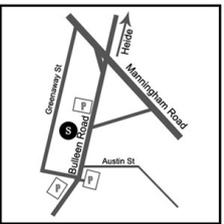
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CLASS AND WORKSHOP SCHEDULE **TERM 4 2019** For more information, contact Ellen or check out our webpage.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Morning	Class: Acrylic Tutor: Sue O'Brien	Class: Watercolour Tutor: John Orlando-Birt	Workshop: Pottery Convenor: Les Huthnance	Class: Pottery/Wheelwork Tutor: Peter Knuckey ----- Workshop: Sculpture Convenor: Ellen Jenkins ----- Workshop: Life Drawing & Painting Convenor: Mick Chick		
Afternoon		Workshop: Painting Convenor: Neil Crammer ----- Workshop: Life Drawing Convenor: Lynton Thomas		Workshop: Sculpture Convenor: Ellen Jenkins ----- Friendship group: Mixed media	Workshop: Life Drawing Convenor: Lynton Thomas	kids art class 4:30—6:00 Teacher Jo Armstrong
Evening		kids art class 4:30—6:00 Teacher Jo Armstrong	kids art class 4:30—6:00 Teacher Jo Armstrong	Workshop: Painting Convenor: Warwick Cheney ----- Workshop: Life Drawing Convenor: Terry Ponchard	Teens art class 5:30—8:30 Teacher Jo Armstrong	