

# Queanbeyan

# Art Society

## A BRUSH WITH THE NEWS

### Shout out to our wonderful volunteers!

A big shout out to everyone who helped out with our October exhibitions launch, Black & White and the Young Artists. Your hard work made the events special and welcoming for everyone.

Special shoutout to the registration team for making sure everything ran smoothly and looked great. We appreciate Alana Foster for representing QAS so eloquently. We also want to thank Stuart Marshall for entertaining us with his music. A big thank you to Kay, our Treasurer, for managing the finances and helping with food and cleanup. We appreciate Cartel Taqueria Queanbeyan for their tasty donations, which added to the friendly vibe. Also, a special thanks to Cheryl and John Mudford for sharing their history knowledge, which enriched the event.

The biggest thanks go to all the wonderful artists who entered these two exhibitions. Overall, your efforts made this month's exhibitions a success, showing the true spirit of our art community.



*It was a packed house for the launch of Black & White and the Young Artists. Read all about it inside...*



## President's Palette

This month has been exceptionally active for our art group, featuring events such as the Gardening Working Bee, the Lerida Wine Barrels entries, not one but two major exhibitions—Black & White and Young Artists—and a Plein Air painting weekend at Bedervale Homestead near Braidwood.

Our group is arguably the most dynamic art organization in Australia, thanks to the dedication of our volunteers who manage everything from organizing groups and planning workshops to handling finances and ensuring smooth event operations.

This newsletter introduces a new format, and some contact details have been removed to protect privacy. However, information about group coordinators and committee members remains accessible on our website and in the gallery flyer.

Looking ahead, we have exciting articles planned, including a wrap-up of *Art in the Garden*, which I hope you can all come along to on 18 & 19 October. As well as the launch of the November exhibition, Portraits of People / Portraits of Animals, sponsored by Julie Ballis, a dedicated QAS supporter, and life member. We will also feature her entries into the *Archibald Prize*!

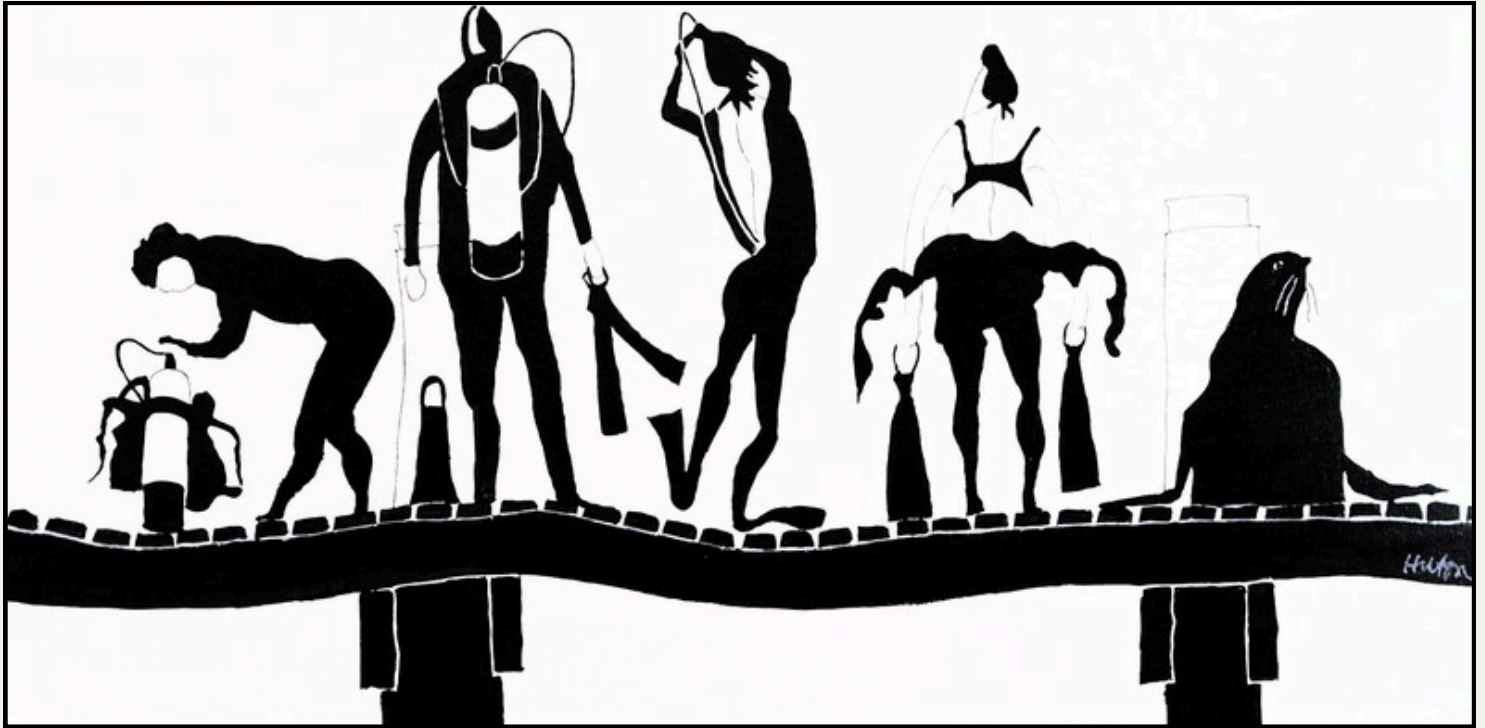
We encourage members and interested individuals to share ideas or join our monthly Committee meetings held on the last Saturday of each month at 1 pm. Your participation is valued, and we welcome new faces to help continue our vibrant activities and community engagement.

*Yours in art,  
Barry Cranston, President*

# Black & White Exhibition

The exhibition opened on Sunday the 5 October and runs until Friday the 24th of October.

Thank you to Susan Wiscombe for being the guest judge.



1st Prize: *Dive Buddies*, Hilton Schofield



2nd Prize: *White Boat - Dark Night*, Trevor Wilson



3rd Prize: *Flying Black and White*, Lal Warusevitane



# Young Artists Exhibition



The winners, anticlockwise from left, with judge Heather Acton's notes.

## Primary School

Most Creative: **Ankylosaurus, Leon Rose**

*The colour was harmonious and the design was very pleasing.*

Best Superhero or Cartoon: **Wonder Woman, Isla Fitzpatrick**

*I liked this design- how you placed the little bird on the canvas, and how you filled all areas with colour. The bird had a little flint in his eye!*

Best Animal: **Quacks, Logan Fort**

*Some study of our native animals has gone on here! You used 'found materials' to express their salient characteristics.*

## High School

Most Creative: **Yodraig goch Nompel map, Avery**

*Your work had the fascination of an antique map! You obviously have spent time imagining other worlds!*

Best Superhero or Cartoon: **Late Night Car Ride, Emily Monaghan**

*I felt this was a very innovative design. The colours were very effective (and harmonious as well).*

Best Animal: **Exquisite Corps, Matthew Watters**

*This work showed someone having great fun with printmaking and collage! Very humorous!*

## College

Most Creative: **Ever Changing Body, Odell**

*I was intrigued with the unexpected use of stitching combined with the black hatching on this work. You also showed a good understanding of anatomy which is very commendable.*

Best Animal: **Circle of Life, Rav Anev.**

*I found this work to be very arresting in its subject matter. It brought to mind the traditional theme of 'memento mori' - a reminder of the fragility of life and the inevitability of death, even for a little rabbit. You show good skill in design and photography, which is very impressive.*





# Black&White and Young Artists Launch



Some of the worthy prize winners with their certificates.



It was a packed house for the opening presentation by QAS Secretary, Alana Foster.



# Black&White and Young Artists Launch



Hilton Schofield receiving the 1<sup>st</sup> prize certificate in the Black & White exhibition



Lal Warusevitane receiving the 3<sup>rd</sup> prize certificate in the Black & White exhibition



Leon Rose receiving certificate for Primary School - Most Creative



Odell receiving certificate for College - Most Creative



Logan Fort receiving certificate for Primary School - Best Animal



Isla receiving certificate for Primary School - Best Superhero or Cartoon



# History Comes to Life at the Gallery



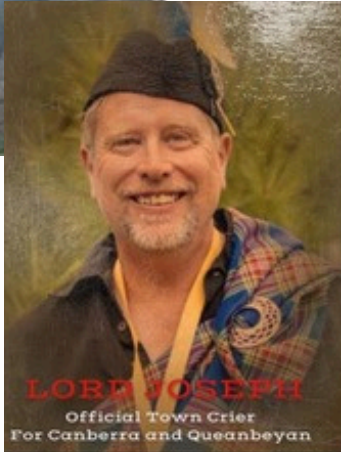
A highlight of the exhibition launch day was an enactment of some of the early historical characters of the QAS gallery building and its surrounds. This was an engaging presentation by Cheryl Mudford, ably assisted by an obviously very talented improv actor (husband John). Despite a catastrophic prop failure, both actors personified the thespian tradition of 'the show must go on'.

Our gallery, O'Neill's Cottage, is a historic structure, notable for its unique construction and rich history. The cottage is partly built using traditional rubble wall techniques, with walls constructed from flattened pebbles sandwiched between horizontal wooden panels and reinforced with kerosene tins. This method reflects the resourcefulness of early settlers and the local community, who utilized available materials to create

durable homes. The absence of a cement slab at the front indicates the cottage's traditional building style, emphasizing its historical authenticity.

Queanbeyan East had two Town Criers. Mr Black and Mr Honeyblew. The role of the Town Crier historically involved announcing important news to the public through loud calls, often accompanied by a bell, as a means of communication before the advent of modern technology. The term 'crier' derives from 'to cry out,' emphasizing the act of shouting out messages such as royal births, wars, or significant local events, akin to today's newspapers or radio announcements.

Above and left:  
Joseph McGrail-Bateup.



Today, the tradition persists with Joseph McGrail-Bateup, town cryer for Canberra and Queanbeyan, recognized as the nation's loudest Town Crier at 96 decibels, who also serves as a marriage celebrant. His retirement will mark the end of an era, symbolized by hanging up his bell, but the historical significance of the Town Crier as a messenger remains noteworthy.

The cottage's history is intertwined with the life of Mary Bowers, a distinguished nurse often referred to as Queanbeyan's Florence Nightingale. Born in 1889 to Cornelius James O'Rourke, a former convict from England, and Sophia Jane O'Rourke, Mary grew up in a family deeply rooted in the local community. Her father, a builder and undertaker, played a significant role in constructing local infrastructure, including coffins for funerals, and was involved in the town's early development.

Mary's dedication to community service was evident through her extensive work delivering babies and providing healthcare in Queanbeyan from the 1920s through the 1940s. Her commitment earned her recognition, culminating in her being awarded the Member of the British Empire in 1967 for her outstanding community service.

*Thank you for the very entertaining history lesson Cheryl and John!*



Above: Nurse Bowers  
with her nurse's bag.



Left: Nurse Bowers  
receiving her MBE.



## Join us for Art in the Garden

Exciting news for art enthusiasts and community members! The Queanbeyan Art Society (QAS) is thrilled to announce its upcoming full weekend event, Art in the Garden, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, 18 & 19 October. This event is part of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council's Queanbeyan Arts Trail 2025 tourism initiative and promises to be a vibrant celebration of local talent, creativity, and community spirit. With a larger scale than previous years, this event offers a fantastic opportunity for artists to showcase their work and for visitors to immerse themselves in a colourful world of art and culture.



However, to make this event a resounding success, we need enthusiastic volunteers! We are calling on our community members and artists to lend a helping hand in various roles, including setting up the gallery, assisting with art registrations and sales, managing logistics, ensuring security, and helping with the movement of artworks. Your support is vital in creating a seamless and memorable experience for everyone involved. Whether you can spare a few hours or the entire weekend, your contribution will make a significant difference.

**If you would like to volunteer, please contact Alana Foster on 0423 020 306.**

**Let's come together to celebrate creativity, support local artists, and make Art in the Garden an unforgettable weekend for all!**

In addition to the art displays—ranging from paintings and sculptures to plein air sketches and life drawings—the event features live music, artist demonstrations, and interactive activities. Visit our coffee cart under the tree just outside our back courtyard gate from 10 am both days. Visitors will enjoy special discounts at Cartel Taqueria, our partner restaurant overlooking the Queanbeyan River, which will offer a 20% discount on food and drinks throughout the weekend. This lively atmosphere, combined with the opportunity to purchase unique artworks directly from artists, makes Art in the Garden a must-attend event for art lovers and families alike.

We urge everyone passionate about art and community to join us in making this event a spectacular success. Your volunteer efforts will help us create a welcoming environment, showcase our talented artists, and promote the vibrant QAS community.

## QAS now uses PayID

PayID is a simple alternative to using BSB and account number. PayID is only used to send funds. A PayID also gives you more confidence when sending money, because when you use a PayID to send money, you'll automatically be shown the name of the person who owns that PayID before you approve the payment.

It is much easier to give someone your PayID rather than BSB and account number as remembering these is difficult.

Only give BSB and Account numbers to trusted organisations. If fraudsters gain access to your banking details and other

personal details, they can steal your identity, take money from your account and make unauthorised online purchases.

When you set up PayID at your bank branch or in online banking you can choose to use your mobile number or email address. A business will use its ABN.

What is the Queanbeyan Art Society PayID – as we are a society, we use our ABN as our PayID - 93 932 115 260. Try using this when next you pay the Queanbeyan Art Society.

**Protect yourself, use Pay ID.**



# Plein Air Painting at Bedervale Homestead

On Saturday 4 October a merry band of QAS Plein Air artists, 18 in all, wended their way to the beautiful heritage National Trust listed homestead of Bedervale, just outside Braidwood. The outing helped celebrate the opening of Bedervale to the public, as part of the Braidwood Arts Trail weekend.

The 2 km of picturesque dirt road whet our appetites as the cattle welcomed us, and the grass was never greener.

Gracious Bedervale homestead stretched beautifully ahead of us as we entered the gate and walked towards it.

We greeted the charming owners, set up our easels, and painted and painted.

Barry came along, thanked the owners, and offered our hosts their choice of our artworks as thanks from Queanbeyan Art Society. The painting chosen was a watercolour of Bedervale Homestead from one of our prolific QAS plein air artists, Camelia Smith.

Our President Barry Cranston invited our host Sonia Horan to choose her favourite painting from the day to keep, and Sonia chose Camelia's gorgeous painting. QAS will reimburse Camelia for the sale price of her painting."

What a treat to stay overnight at Braidwood, eating together at the Royal Mail Hotel.

Sunday saw us repeat the wonderful day before. A tired but satisfied art mob returned home.

What a wonderful experience at the QPRC Art Trail at Bedervale.

*Rosanna Burston*



Camelia with her painting and new friend, Arnold the poddy lamb.



A glorious day for painting and a magical spot.



Eric tickled the ivories on the Bedervale grand.



Sonia Horan and Margaret Royds accepting Barry's thank you on behalf of our QAS Plein Air painters for letting us paint in the grounds of their gorgeous historic homestead over the weekend.



Barry, Ian and Mark at Bedervale.



The 'welcome sign' at the entrance to Bedervale Homestead.



# Plein Air Painting at Bedervale Homestead



Above: our muse for the day. Below and on the next page are some of the wonderful artworks created on the day by our Plein Air Painting group: Alana, Amanda, Camelia, Eric, Ian, Isla, Jenny, Louise, Lucinda, Lucy, Mark, Mike, Oliver, Robin, Rosanna, Suzanne, Sharon, Terry, and Val.





## Plein Air Painting at Bedervale Homestead







We need a  
bulldozer



## Gardening Working Bee

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who joined us on Wednesday, 8 October, for the garden working bee: Cheryl, David, Gayle, Karen, and Pamela.

Due to the hard ground, which had been compacted by cement to prevent tree roots from disturbing the pavers, the back garden is primarily filled with pots. Additionally, using pots allows us to tackle the couch grass issue more effectively, as pots can be moved during the spraying process.

The area behind the workroom is now free of debris. The newly cleared space holds the potential for a garden shed, similar to the one on the opposite side of the fence.

Roots from the roses and other bushes remain and need to be dug out with a mattock or similar. This task is beyond our art group's capabilities and we will explore possibilities for assistance.

*Thank you to everyone who donated pots and plants.*





## Roll Out the Barrels at Lerida Estate



The winners from left to right: Margaret Carr 2nd; Eric Brookbanks 1st; Alba Salsone 4th; Libby Lund 3rd; Lynne Ho 4th; Mel Kirkpatrick 4th.

**Despite of the inclement weather on the 9 October, about 35 Queanbeyan Art Society members enjoyed Lerida Estate's warm hospitality at the opening of the annual barrel painting exhibition.**

This is the second year that Lerida has hosted this unique exhibition, and the variety of topics and the quality of the paintings are outstanding. With 54 barrel paintings on display, covering a range of subject matter, this is an exhibition you won't want to miss.

There were six winners, selected by the staff of Lerida, each receiving a Lerida gift voucher. This year, Melisa, the General Manager at Lerida, took things up a notch by increasing the value of the first prize and adding three additional fourth prizes. We were also treated to some of Lerida's lovely bubbly on arrival.

I urge you all to spread the word about this amazing exhibition and invite your family and friends to drop in at Lerida for lunch, coffee and cake, or a wine tasting.

P.S. If anyone wants to paint more circles to replace the ones that are sold, we still have a few blanks for sale in the QAS gallery storeroom.

*Stuart Wiscombe*

I urge you all to spread the word about this amazing exhibition and invite your family and friends to drop in at Lerida for lunch, coffee and cake, or a wine tasting.

**The address is:  
Lerida Estate Winery  
87 Vineyards Lane,  
Lake George NSW**





# Roll Out the Barrels at Lerida Estate





## South Coast Pastels

It was great to hear from Eric Strachan this week, one of our long time loyal and frequent exhibitor members from the South Coast.

Eric has just finished thirteen years as Treasurer of the [South Coast Pastel Society](#) (SCPS), a very successful group. Like all committee people, Eric has put in his own time to help the South Coast Pastel Society. We recall Nina Poulton, also our member, was President of SCPS a while back. Great talents!

Eric added that the recent exhibition they held at the Hanging Rock Function Centre at Catalina, Batemans Bay saw \$12000 in art sales to their members. How fantastic.

Eric told us that he's now a member of the [Victorian Pastel Society](#). He's able to put in online entries to their competitions and exhibitions, where he has been successful.

That's great news for Eric, and others might like to look that up.

Eric's off on an art and family trip to Castlemaine in Victoria, where he will enjoy visiting family and painting and drawing the amazing historic buildings in Castlemaine.

We look forward to seeing his work.

*Rosanna Burston*



Some examples of Eric's pastel artwork.



**Sold!**

**These artworks have sold in the last month:**

Left: *Aranda Gums*, Ian Sharpe

Right: *Bark Study*, Sue Rabbidge

Bottom left: *Ferris Wheel - Floriade*, Emily Buckland

Bottom right: *Aqua Dance*, Roger Nixon





## Exciting Workshops Coming soon!

Book now to secure your spot – members get priority until 25 November!

We're thrilled to announce a stellar lineup of workshops at the Queanbeyan Art Society, featuring some of Australia's most celebrated artists. Whether you're a seasoned artist or just starting out, these workshops offer a unique opportunity to learn from the best. Spaces are limited – don't miss out!

### 2025 workshops



Leigh Walker 2 Day Abstract Painting Workshop

#### Leigh Walker – Abstract Painting

8 & 9 November, 9 am to 4.30 pm Only 2 spots left!

Canberra-based artist and renowned tutor Leigh Walker returns to QAS with her dynamic and expressive Abstract Painting workshop. Known for her bold use of colour and intuitive style, Leigh will guide you through techniques to unlock your creativity and develop your own abstract voice.

Whether you're a beginner or experienced artist, this workshop offers the perfect chance to develop confidence, explore new techniques, and meet like-minded creatives.

Plus, at the end of the workshop, participants can put their new found skills to work preparing paintings to display in our upcoming 2026 Abstract Painting Exhibition in March.

#### Leigh Walker – Drawing Workshop

22 & 23 November, 9 am to 4.30 pm  
Fully booked – join the waitlist!

This popular workshop filled up fast! If you missed out, don't worry – you can still join the waitlist for a chance to attend this inspiring session focused on expressive and observational drawing.

### 2026 workshops

#### Catherine Hamilton – Drawing & Colour Mixing Foundation Skills

One of Victoria's finest tutors, Catherine Hamilton brings her expertise to QAS in two essential workshops for artists of all levels:

- Drawing Fundamentals – 14 & 15 March 2026

Master the building blocks of great art with a focus on line, tone, and form.

- Colour Mixing Mastery – 16 & 17 March 2026

Unlock the secrets of colour theory and mixing to bring your paintings to life.

Note: the colour mixing workshop is available to book now, the drawing workshop will be available for booking soon on Humanitix – stay tuned!

#### Colley Whisson – Impressionist Oils & Acrylics Series

Internationally acclaimed impressionist Colley Whisson is coming to QAS for a spectacular trio of workshops:

- Interiors & Seascapes – 11 & 12 May 2026
- Seascapes & Landscapes – 14 & 15 May 2026
- Landscapes & Urbanscapes – 16 & 17 May 2026

Don't miss this rare opportunity to learn from one of Australia's most sought-after artists. Choose one or attend all three for the full experience!

#### How to Book:

Visit [Humanitix.com](https://www.humanitix.com) and search for:

- Tutor's Name
- Queanbeyan Art Society, or
- Queanbeyan NSW

#### Chan Dissanayake – Watercolour & Acrylic Landscapes

A master of atmosphere and light, Chan Dissanayake brings his signature style to QAS in June:

- Watercolour Landscapes – 13 & 14 June 2026
- Acrylic Landscapes – 15 & 16 June 2026

These workshops are perfect for artists looking to elevate their landscape painting skills with expert guidance.

#### More Workshops Coming Soon!

We're also planning exciting new workshops, including:

- Shadows in the Landscape (Soft Pastel)
- Portrait Workshop
- Lino Cutting & Printmaking
- Art Journaling Workshop

Stay in the loop by subscribing to Queanbeyan Art Society on Humanitix.com – you'll be the first to know when new workshops go live!

**Members have exclusive booking access until 25 November 2025. After that, workshops will open to the public at non-member rates.**

*Andrew Smith  
Workshop Coordinator*



## Gallery Groups

Our gallery groups have a minimal cost ranging from \$3 to \$20. While none of the groups have a dedicated tutor, except the Sunday group, it is a wonderful opportunity to create and learn together.

### Monday 1:45pm – 4pm

Life Drawing and Painting with model, all media.

### Tuesday 10am – 1pm

Social Painting, all media.

### Tuesday 8.30am – 11am

Plein Air, all media.

### Wednesday 10am – 1pm

Social painting, all media.

### Wednesday 6:30pm – 9pm

Long Pose Life Drawing with model.

### Thursday 10am – 1pm

All media.

### Friday 10am – 1pm

Social Painting, all media.

### Saturday 10am – 2 pm

Except for the last Saturday of the month, exhibition day. Social Mixed Painting – Acrylics & Oils.

### Sunday 10am – 1 pm

Never Stop Learning  
Media is anything but oils.

Contact information, is on the QAS website [gasarts.org](http://gasarts.org).

## New Members

Welcome to our newest members!  
We invite new members to participate actively and enjoy creating art with our friendly community. Your involvement is key to our society's vibrancy, and we look forward to your creative contributions.

- Sue Hudson
- David Smith
- Jennifer Ahmad
- Christopher Vevers
- Matt Carters.

## Upcoming Events

### Art in the Garden

#### Part of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Arts Trail 2025

Works due by Thursday, 16 October.  
Exhibition on Saturday & Sunday  
18 & 19 November.

### Portraits of People, Portraits of Animals

Sponsored by QAS & Julie Ballis  
Plus

### Mexican theme small art

up to A4, and Miniatures 10x10cm,  
30x30cm framed.  
Works due by Saturday, 25 October  
Exhibition launch Sunday, 2 November.

### Sculpture & Drawing

including life drawing, and Anything Goes  
Works due by Saturday, 29 November  
Exhibition launch Sunday, 7 December

### QAS Christmas Party

Sunday, 7 December 12:30 pm at the  
gallery.

## Life Members:

Frank Alcock (d) Laurel Blyton, Julie Ballis,  
Judy Barber, Dee Boardman,  
Rosanna Burston, Frank Bresnik (d),  
Barry Cranston, Jean Daniel (d),  
Patricia Fleming, Karen Hall,  
Trevor Hardy (d), M. Kaczmarowski (d),  
Bob Kalivoda (d), S. Gerritsma,  
Phil Greinke, Jill Creinke, Jean Helmers (d),  
Cheryl Hill, Royce Howlett (d),  
Belinda Ingram, June Larkin,  
B McCooey (d), Hope Marland (d),  
Ivy McDonald (d), Pam Padovan,  
Frank Pangallo, Elaine Perrin,  
S. Peristoma (d), Derek Rogers (d),  
Joy Rogers (d), E. Stephens, Ron Vella and  
Pauline Weeks (d).

## Support the sponsors who support us:

### Venue Sponsors

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- [Lerida Estate Winery](#)
- [Riverside Plaza](#)

### Major Sponsor

[Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council](#)

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#### Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/qartsociety>

#### Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/QueanbeyanArtSociety>

#### Website

[gasarts.org](http://gasarts.org)

#### Email

[qartsociety@gmail.com](mailto:qartsociety@gmail.com)

#### Post

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#### Location

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