

Queanbeyan

Art Society

A BRUSH WITH THE NEWS

Inside:

Our current exhibition, on until 23 January 2026, had a record number of entries. Winning artworks are pictured on pages 2 to 5. Thank you to everyone who entered.

Another bumper issue:

- Capital Plein Air Festival, with ties to our very own Plein Air group
- QAS Christmas Party happy snaps
- Upcoming workshops
- Featured artist Trevor Rowe
- An invitation from COTA to *Upstaging*
- Do you have a first aid certificate?
- A glimpse of the QAS Strategic Plan
- The 2026 exhibition calendar

... and much more.

Happy reading
Susan Lyon



From Left to Right: Tim Hardy "Anything Goes" Judge, Sukhuvinder Saggu, David Smith, Jennine Broughton, Susan Wiscombe, Neil Dickinson - Sculpture & Drawing Judge.

President's Palette

As we approach the end of another creative year, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who contributed to our art society in 2025.

A special thank you goes to Alana Foster for her dedicated service as Secretary. Her enthusiasm and hard work have been truly inspiring, and she will be missed on the Committee. I look forward to reconnecting with her at upcoming plein air gatherings and workshops.

The annual Christmas Party was a very merry occasion, a great way for us to celebrate another successful year together.

Looking ahead, in this edition is an introduction to our *Mission Statement*, as well as our *Strategic Plan for 2025 - 2028*, designed to guide our future efforts. We have also curated an exciting lineup of exhibitions for 2026. The finalised calendar is included in this issue to allow members to plan their participation well in advance. We have added a new category for April, Queanbeyan Heritage, to coincide with and support the Queanbeyan Heritage Festival. I am eager to see what inspiring works you will bring to our QAS gallery in the new year.

A shout-out to Rosanna Burston and Natasha Ruschka, who are organizing the Capital Plein Air Festival in April 2026.

Finally, congratulations to everyone who entered our exhibitions during 2025. Your involvement in showcasing your talent and fostering artistic growth is truly commendable.

Wishing you a joyful holiday season and a creative year ahead.

Yours in art,
Barry Cranston

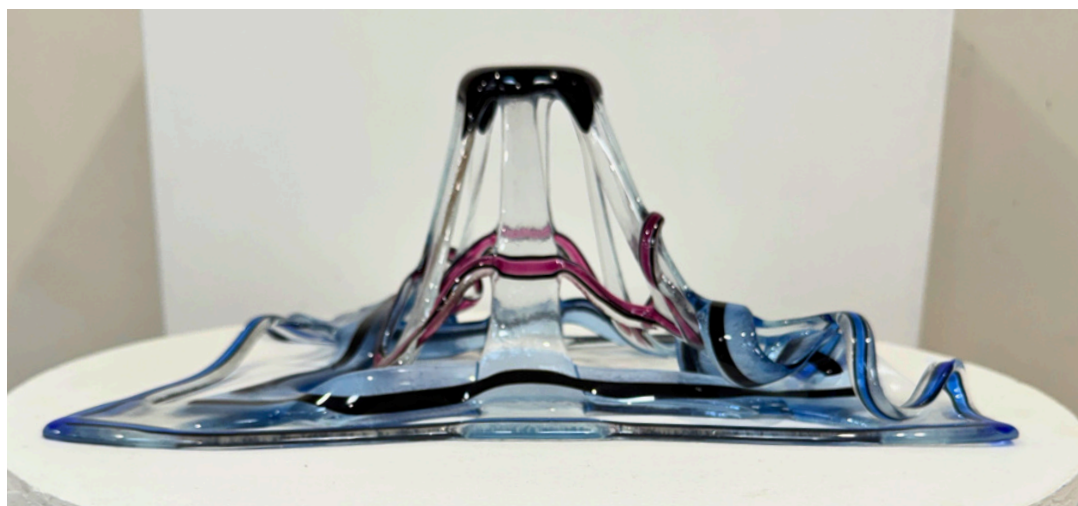


Sculpture

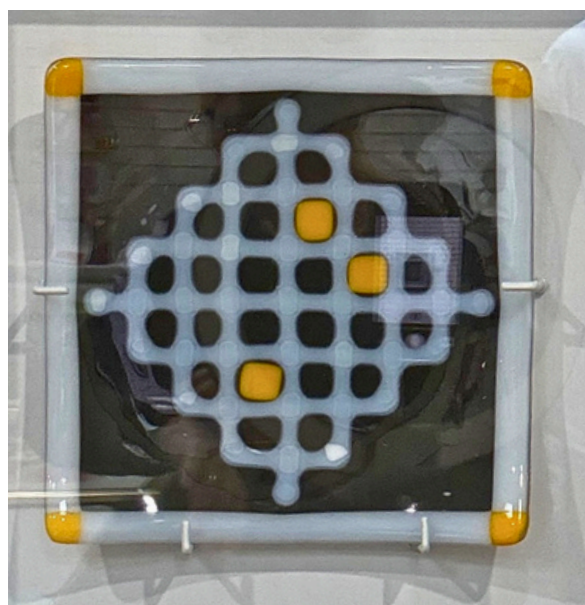
ON SHOW FROM 7 DECEMBER 2025 UNTIL 23 JANUARY 2026



1st Prize: *Going Places*,
David Smith



2nd Prize: *Altered State*,
Susan Wiscombe



3rd Prize: *Ghost in the Machine*,
Jennine Boughton

Exhibition sponsor:



Buvelot Picture
Framers

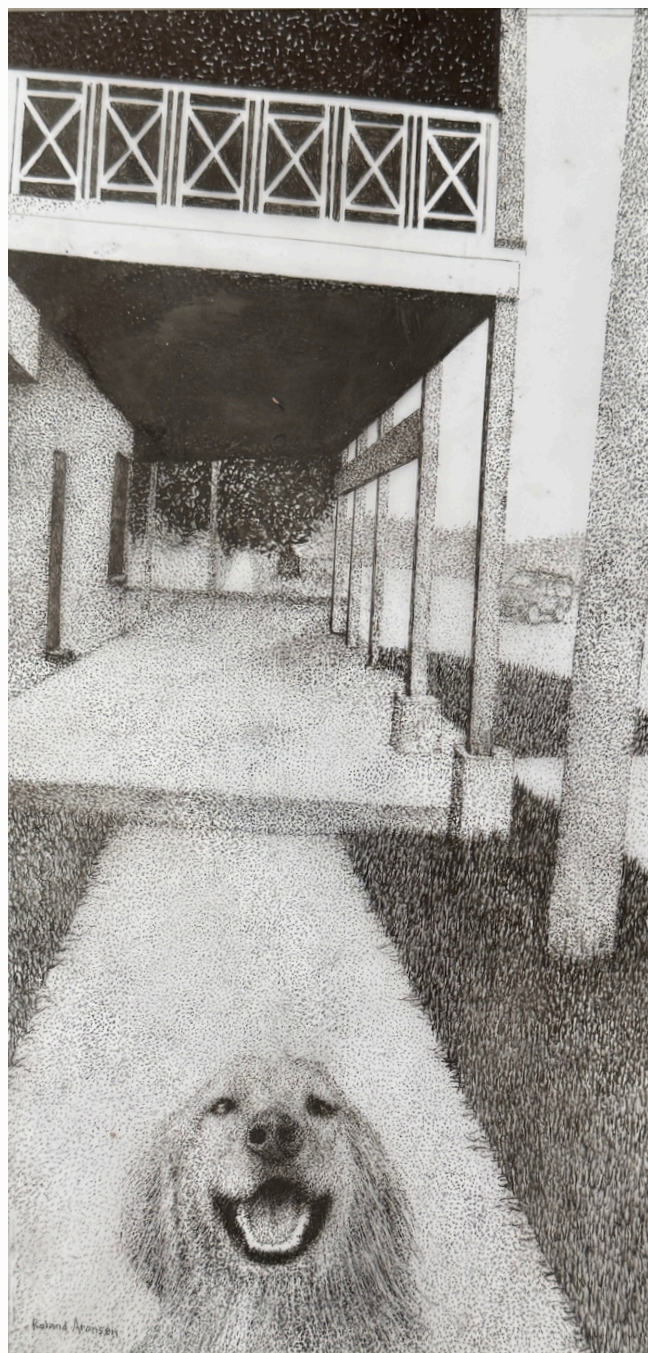
QAS major sponsor:



Queanbeyan-
Palering Regional
Council

Drawing

ON SHOW FROM 7 DECEMBER 2025 UNTIL 23 JANUARY 2026



1st Prize: *Braidwood Balcony*, Roland Aronson

QAS major sponsor:

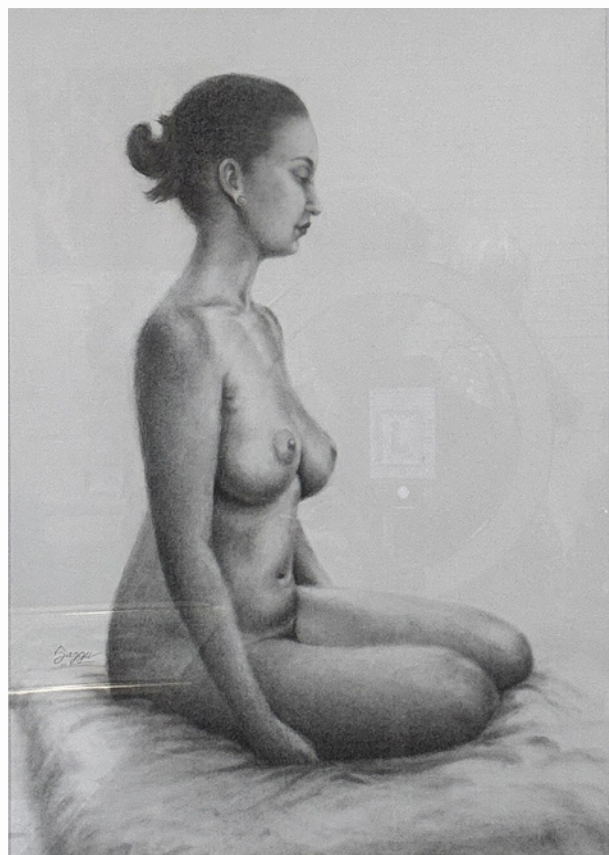


**Queanbeyan-
Palering Regional
Council**

Exhibition sponsor:



**Buvelot Picture
Framers**



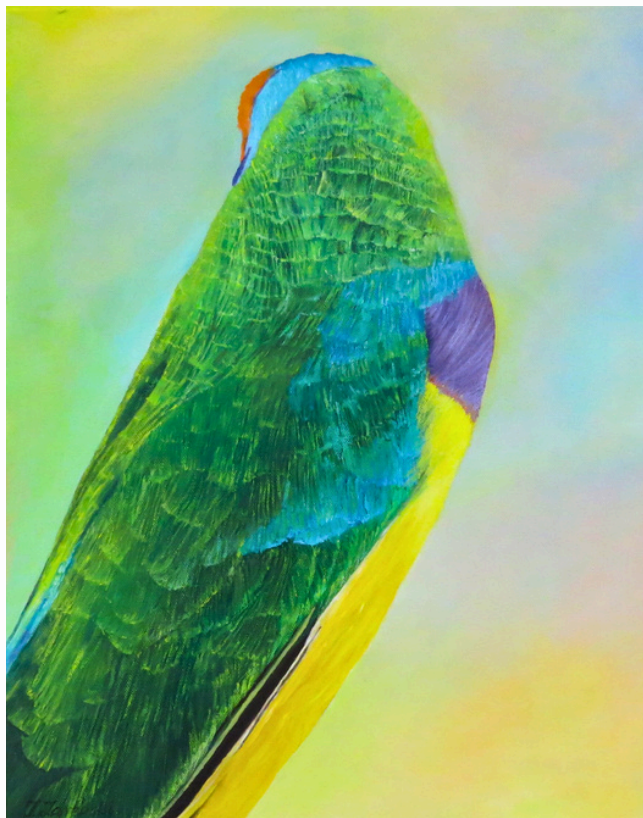
2nd Prize: *Seated Figure*, Sukhvinder Saggu



3rd Prize: *From the Rising of the Sun*, Jenny Sheppard

Anything Goes

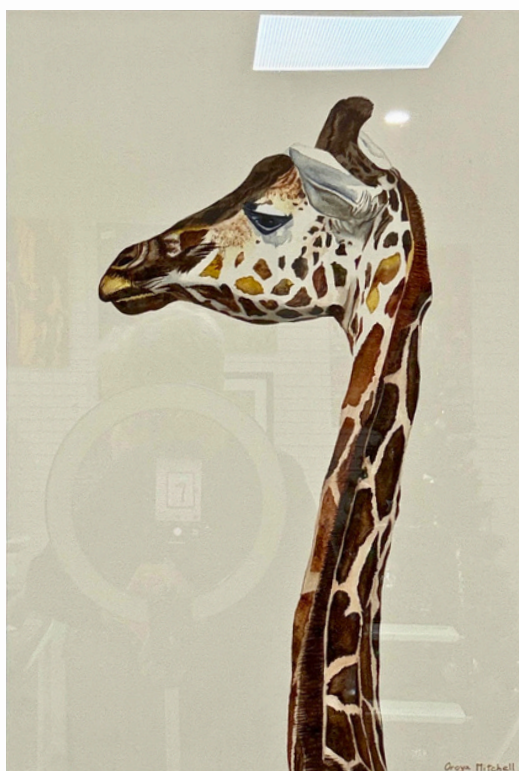
ON SHOW FROM 7 DECEMBER 2025 UNTIL 23 JANUARY 2026



2nd Prize: *Shamefacedly Finch*, Irena Zarebski



1st Prize: *Dragon Fly Net*, Adrienne Conway



3rd Prize:
Here's Looking at You,
Oroya Mitchell

Exhibition sponsor:



**Buvelot Picture
Framers**

QAS major sponsor:



**Queanbeyan-
Palering Regional
Council**

QAS Christmas Party

A big thank you to Kay and all the elves for making the QAS Christmas Party such a success!



Gallery Groups

Gallery groups have a minimal cost ranging from \$3 to \$2.

While none of the groups have dedicated tutors, except the Sunday group, it is an opportunity to create and learn together.

Monday 10am – 2pm

Social Painting, all media.
Phone Judy 0409 394 763.

Monday 1:45pm – 4pm

Life Drawing and Painting, all media, with a model.
Phone Kay 0427 211 772.

Tuesday 10am – 1pm

Social Painting, all media.
Phone Gay 0421 344 620.

Tuesday 8.30am – 11am

Plein Air, all media.
Phone Rosanna 0418 863 428.

Wednesday 10am – 1pm

Social painting, all media.
Phone Belinda 0404 166 934.

Wednesday 6:30pm – 9pm

Long Pose Life Drawing with a model.
Email Sandra cocosolo3@me.com

Thursday 10am – 1pm

All media.
Phone Dee 0415 349 899, or
Karen 0438 010 710.

Friday 10am – 1pm

Social Painting, all media.
Phone Judy 0409 394 763.

Saturday 10am – 2 pm

Social Mixed Painting, Acrylics & Oils.
Phone Sue 0412 728 530, or
Trish 0407 495 415.

Sunday 10am – 1 pm

Never Stop Learning. Any media except oils.
Phone Belinda 0404 166 934.

3rd Sunday each month 1pm – 4pm

Sculpture, Any materials.
Susan Wiscombe 0421272425

More information is available from the QAS website gasarts.org.

Sold!

Artworks sold in November

QAS Gallery

Wendy Schofield 'Spotted Pardalote'

- Edwina Walsh 'Surf Break'
- Gay Mouat 'Hummingbird'
- Narelle Sheppard 'Pink Magnolia'
- Sukhvinder Saggu 'Vibrant Canola Fields'
- Jenny Sheppard 'Holiday Colours'
- Sandra House 'Gums - Belconnen Way'
- Sue Crommie 'Kookaburra'
- Roland Arronsen 'British Nostalgia'
- Kathy Walter 'Yellow Pokers'

Lerida Estate Winery

- Hilton Schofield 'Dive Buddies'
- Barrel Margaret Carr 'Foraging'

Beess & Co Cafe

Dawn Wilson 'Poppies and Sky'

QAS Health and Safety



Committee member Roger Nixon has been reviewing QAS health and safety. A new first aid kit has been purchased and is located in the gallery workroom. If you use any supplies from the kit, please let Roger or a Committee member know so that the items can be replaced. gartsociety@gmail.com

Rosanna Burston, convenor of the QAS Plein Air group, has also purchased a new small first aid kit for that group's use.

First Aid Officers

If you have a current first aid certificate or would consider being trained, please email Roger at gartsociety@gmail.com

Health and Safety Awareness

Next year, the Committee will be arranging a one-hour health and safety awareness session for all members. More information on this will be provided closer to the event.

QAS Strategic Plan 2025 – 2028

I'm happy to launch our Society's first Strategic Plan. It's a roadmap that reflects our shared passion for the arts and commitment to enriching our community.

The Committee based this Plan on responses to our member survey. The QAS Committee took seriously the feedback about the Society's strengths and what members would like to see done differently.

This Plan is a collective promise, a reflection of our values, a celebration of our diversity, and a clear path to a thriving artistic future. Together, we'll continue to inspire, engage, and create.

You can find the 2025 - 2028 Strategic Plan and the results of the Members Survey on the QAS Website. I encourage you to read both these documents.

QAS President, Barry



Christmas gifts sorted!

Get your Christmas gifts sorted with a visit to the gallery's Arts and Crafts.

You will find an enormous range of beautifully crafted hand-made gifts sure to please everyone!

If you are an artisan and would like to display in the gallery, email Heather at gartsociety@gmail.com

'Pick Your Paintings' Raffle Winners

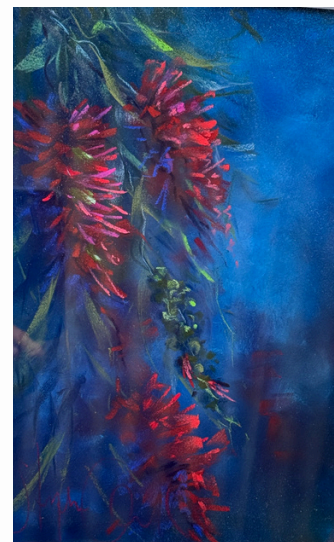


1st Prize was won by Tracey McKelvie, who chose Chan Dissanayake's painting (left).

2nd Prize went to Joanne Fry (pictured), who chose Colley Whisson's painting (below middle).

3rd Prize went to Jenny Overett, who chose Stephie Clark's painting (below right).

4th Prize went to Oliver Chen, who won Catherine Hamilton's painting (below left).



Featured Artist - Trevor Rowe

Trevor Rowe is a colourist.

His work explores colour balance, colour contrast and colour relationships. The results are strong vibrant works through to works that are minimal, subtle and subdued. There are recurring themes of starkness, aloneness, isolation and otherness reflecting his lived experience. And, there is a latent joy.

While much of his work involves acrylic on canvas and board, Trevor embraces collage and digital painting, watercolour and sculpture. He seeks to engage with viewers, inviting exploration of the creative process, patterns and markings. Also, he invites viewers to understand mediums and their meanings.

Trevor seeks to employ found materials, repurposing the mundane and ordinary into works that exhibit beauty.

The Coming of Spring



Workshops

We have an amazing line-up of workshops planned for 2026 featuring some of Australia's most talented 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!

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.

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!

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!

Stay tuned for more workshops to be announced throughout 2026, including:

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

To book visit [Humanitix.com](https://www.humanitix.com)

and search for: Tutor's Name, Queanbeyan Art Society, or Queanbeyan.

Subscribe to Humantix to know when new workshops are added.

Leigh Walker's Abstract Painting Workshop



Participants show their wonderful abstract artworks.

During the weekend of 8 and 9 November, Canberra-based artist and renowned tutor Leigh Walker led an inspiring and energetic Abstract Painting workshop at QAS.

Celebrated for her bold use of colour and intuitive approach, Leigh guided participants through innovative techniques that unlocked their creativity and helped them discover their unique abstract voices.

The two-day workshop was a fantastic experience, leaving attendees feeling motivated and empowered to explore their artistic potential. It was a memorable event that fostered a vibrant atmosphere of learning and artistic growth, showcasing Leigh Walker's exceptional talent in inspiring others to express themselves through abstract art.



Leigh Walker, inspiring our QAS members through abstract art.



Capital Plein Air Festival

For a week in April 2026, artists will gather in the nation's capital to paint the autumn colours, learn from Australia's best artists, connect, test their skills, and sell their art.

Co-founders Natasha Ruschka and Rosanna Burston are also members of QAS and are pictured proudly wearing their inaugural Plein Air Festival T-shirts.

Throughout the festival week, artists will visit several locations across the capital. The festival will culminate in a centralised public spectators' event, with entertainment, awards, and the 2-hour quick draw competition.

Join in the fun by signing up, and stay in the loop by joining the mailing list. Visit the website:

<https://www.capitalpleinair.com/>



Pictured above and right are Natasha Ruschka (left) and Rosanna Burston (right), proudly wearing their Capital Plein Air Festival T-shirts.



SCOTT GELLATLY (USA)
Featured Artist & Judge

Capital Plein Air 2026 Festival Dates:

April 18 – 19 Workshop Weekend with USA Artist Scott Gellatly

April 20 – 24 Pre-Festival Paint Out

April 25 – 26 Festival Weekend

Saturday – Parliamentary Triangle

Sunday – Fitter's Workshop Kingston

<https://www.capitalpleinair.com/>

QAS Plein Air Group

The QAS Plein Air Group meets every Tuesday morning 8.30 am to 11 am at various locations in and around the ACT.

Rosanna Burston, pictured in the story above, is the long-time convenor and location scout. Her time and effort are very much appreciated in getting the group organised, not only for the paint-out, but also for a well-deserved coffee afterwards.

Each member brings their own unique style to depicting the location, with every medium imaginable represented - sketches with pencil or pen, watercolours, acrylics, pastels, oil paints, and more.

If you would like to join this band of merry painters, just contact Rosanna on 0418 863 428.



Some members of the QAS Plein Air group enjoy a coffee at Bees Cafe.

UPSTAGEING Canberra 20-29 March 2026



UPSTAGEING

Creative Ageing Arts Festival

Council On The Ageing ACT (COTA) invites you to get involved with *UPSTAGEING Canberra*, Australia's first large-scale Creative Ageing Arts Festival, celebrating the bold, brilliant, and diverse creative expression of older Canberrans.

Launching in March 2026, the festival will feature performances, exhibitions, arts workshops, and plenty of opportunities to get involved in arts activities — all created by, for, and with older people.

Spanning visual arts, theatre, music, dance, film, and beyond, UPSTAGEING Canberra champions artistic excellence, inclusive practice, and the health and well-being benefits of creativity in later life.

For more information or to get involved, visit the COTA website: <https://cotaact.org.au/upstageing/> or follow them on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

**ROAD
CLOSED**

Monaro Street Refresh



Monaro Street looking towards Collett Street

The 'Monaro Street Refresh' project will involve closing all four lanes of Monaro St for the duration of the project, from mid-January to mid-July 2026.

Road closures will impact access to the Queanbeyan Business District, with potential traffic frustrations for QAS members and visitors to the QAS Gallery.

The intersections of Crawford St and Lowe St will remain open for north-south traffic, and footpath access to businesses will be maintained.

For further up-to-date information on this project visit the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council website at: <https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Major-Works-Projects/Monaro-Street-Refresh>

QAS 2026 Exhibition Calendar

Month	Exhibition	Dates
February 8 - 27	Surrealism, Abstract & Abstraction, Anything Goes	Online entry by: 29 January 5pm Artworks by: 31 January 10 - 12.30
March 8 - 27	Multicultural Festival, Balloon Festival, Anything Goes Plus 'Bring and Buy' day	Online entry by: 26 February 5pm Artworks by: 28 February 10 - 12.30
April 5 - 24	Queanbeyan Heritage (of place), ANZAC Day & the Military, Anything Goes	Online entry by: 26 March 5pm Artworks by: 28 March 10 - 12.30
May 3 - 29	People & Places, Animals, Sculpture, Mixed Media using found objects	Online entry by: 23 April 5pm Artworks by: 25 April 10 - 12.30
June 7 - 26	Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Inspired by Music, Anything Goes	Online entry by: 28 May 5pm Artworks by: 30 May 10 - 12.30
July 5 - 24	Blue & Orange, Molonglo, Anything Goes	Online entry by: 25 June 5pm Artworks by: 27 June 10 - 12.30
August 2 - 24	Black & White, Anything Goes	Online entry by: 23 July 5pm Artworks by: 25 July 10 - 12.30
September 6 - 25	No members' exhibition. ACT Textiles Exhibition	Online entry by: 27 August 5pm Artworks by: 29 August 10 - 12.30
October 4 - 30	Seascapes, Landscapes, Still Life, Anything Goes	Online entry by: 24 September 5pm Artworks by: 26 September 10 - 12.30
November 8 - 27	Agricultural Show Days, Portraits of People & Animals Plus 'Bring and Buy' day	Online entry by: 29 October 5pm Artworks by: 31 October 10 - 12.30
December 6 - 29 Jan	Life Drawing, Human Figure Paintings, Summernats, Anything Goes	Online entry by: 26 November 5pm Artworks by: 28 November 10 - 12.30



Cut out this page and stick it to your fridge for handy reference.



Current Exhibitions

Sunday, 7 December to Friday, 23 January

Sculpture, Drawing, Anything Goes

sponsored by QAS



Next Exhibition

Surrealism, Abstract and Abstraction, Anything Goes

sponsored by QAS

Online entry by 29 January 5pm

Artworks to the gallery on 31 January 10am - 12.30pm

Exhibition opens at 10am on Sunday, 8 February.

Runs until 27 February 2026.

Our Mission

The Queanbeyan Art Society provides a supportive and encouraging environment for artists.

We work together to develop, educate, and provide opportunities to exhibit, promote and sell art.

New Members

New members are encouraged to join workshops, workgroups, and help with Society activities.

Welcome to our newest members:

Allison Jones

Chris Meadham

Jennifer Lozev

Jill Shanahan

Committee

- **President** Barry Cranston
- **Vice President** Belinda Ingram
- **Treasurer** Kay Plummer
- **A/g Secretary** Stuart Wiscombe
- **Membership** Heather Holland

General Members:

- Cheryl Mudford
- John Mudford
- Roger Nixon
- Sue Rabbidge
- Susan Wiscombe
- Susan Lyon.

The Committee meets at the gallery on the last Saturday of the month at 1 pm; everyone is welcome.

To contact a committee member, please email gartsociety@gmail.com

Life Members:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| • Laurel Blyton | • Cheryl Hill |
| • Julie Ballis | • Belinda Ingram |
| • Judy Barber | • June Larkin |
| • Dee Boardman | • Nyree Mason |
| • Rosanna Burston | • Leigh Murray |
| • Barry Cranston | • Pam Padovan |
| • Patricia Fleming | • Frank Pangallo |
| • Karen Hall | • Elaine Perrin |
| • M.S. Gerritsma | • Andrew Smith |
| • Phil Greinke | • E. Stephens |
| • Jill Creinke | • Ron Vella. |

Details are correct at the time of printing. Please check the QAS website for changes and updates.



Support our sponsors:

Major Sponsor

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

Sponsors

- Elringtons Lawyers
- Buvelot Picture Framers
- Cartel Taqueria Mexican Restaurant
- James Hobberson, Auditor
- Julie Ballis
- Lerida Estate Winery
- Molonglo Conservation Group
- Queanbeyan Landcare
- Queanbeyan Leagues Club
- Trendsetting Digital Printing

Venue Sponsors

- Beess & Co Café
- Lerida Estate Winery
- Riverside Plaza

Note: to buy a painting from Riverside Plaza, phone Kay 0427 211 772.



On Ngamri and Ngunnawal land

Email gartsociety@gmail.com

Post

PO Box 567

Queanbeyan NSW 2620

Location

8 Trinculo Place

Queanbeyan East NSW 2620

Website gasarts.org

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook