

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020

SPECIAL EDITION

Toowoomba Art Society Ltd



IMPORTANT UPDATE YOUR TAS 2020 AGM Its still happening!!!!

Members are asked to note that the Annual General Meeting will proceed as scheduled on

Saturday, 18 April 2020 at 9:00am

HOWEVER ...

due to the necessary closure of Culliford House, the Board has decided to proceed with a 'virtual AGM' using a video conference system, Zoom.

Members are encouraged to participate by registering to receive Zoom connection details and AGM papers by emailing our Treasurer, Kurt timmins.kurt@gmail.com with subject - 'Virtual AGM'.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

COVID-19 has dominated our lives over the past few weeks. The Board's attempts to keep abreast of the most up-to-date advice by senior health professionals and governments in order to do the right thing by all our members and children, were thwarted on an almost daily basis by ever more draconian policy changes till we had to impose a total indefinite shut-down of classes, workshops, exhibitions and meetings. Some of us will feel as if we've been hit for six, others will see the enforced lay-off as a golden opportunity to spend more time on our artistic efforts. At the moment with other things happening in my life I'm not quite sure where I stand on this scale! Hopefully the latter.

On Thursday 2nd April the Board held a historic virtual meeting via the Zoom videoconferencing facility, expertly organized by Kurt. As a technologically-challenged senior I had qualms about the venture and was pleasantly surprised how straightforward it was. So that is how we plan to conduct the AGM at the advertised time of 9am, Sat. 18th April, and the ensuing first meeting of the new Board. Obviously members are invited, but only a finite number can be accommodated. If you are keen to join us please contact Kurt timmins.kurt@gmail.com to book in.

At the meeting it became obvious that there are ways of maintaining our exhibitions program until such time as we are cleared to re-start our activities, at which point the scheduled exhibitions will resume. Meanwhile we're prepared to stage online exhibitions, starting in May with the Life Drawing and Art in Bark groups. This will require you to ensure professional-quality photographs of your artworks which can't be framed due to reflections on the glass. If there are members out there who have the necessary skills to facilitate this process as photographers or experienced online users, please get in touch because Board members can't (and shouldn't have to) handle everything. In theory we can run the full program of exhibitions, apart from 45 X 45 in one form or another.

Three weeks ago, when social gatherings weren't yet a mortal sin, several TAS members helped farewell past President John Maslen who has relocated to Sydney. For many years John was a highly respected committee member who became an exemplary President for about a decade until 2007. When Wal Culliford bequeathed not only 1 Godsall St. but also his land on Culliford Drive to TAS in 1996, it was John who guided its subdivision and the sale of most lots, a huge task. After almost 75 years of existence TAS' financial security was assured. It enabled us to replace the original Federation home with our custom-built Culliford House and make investments while John Neale was Treasurer. We wish John Maslen a long and happy life.

On behalf of the Board I wish you all good health. Take care.

Allan Bruce (04.04.20)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome **Natalie Fogarty, Mandy Mott, Roslyn Simmons** and **Bernadette Whisson** to our ranks. Although TAS, like most other organisations, is far from operating as usual due to the current pandemic sweeping the globe, all hope it won't be long before everything is back to normal and you will be able to enjoy your future creative experiences and the friendly atmosphere at TAS, as well as all the facilities, activities and events that your society has to offer its members.

Our monthly newsletter, TAS's web page (toowoombaartsociety.com.au) and Facebook page (TAS – Toowoomba Art Society) will keep up to date, and once Culliford House reopens, additional hardcopy information will be available on the noticeboard and in printed materials in the corridor.

NB. If you have paid for membership online using direct deposit & have not received a receipt or membership card in the mail, it could be because you did not give us your address/email/phone number. If this is you, please email your details to twba1godsall@gmail.com/ subject 'Membership'.

GALLERY

Although all TAS classes, exhibitions, activities and events are on hold, your TAS Board is working harder than ever under the challenging circumstances of the COVID-19 crisis.

Apart from having to dedicate many more hours to managing the impacts on the Society, the Directors have had the challenge of implementing 'virtual Board' meetings as a responsible response to mandatory social distancing requirements. Below is a screenshot of the most recent 'Zoom' Board meeting.

Acknowledging the huge efforts of our TAS Board, members extend their sincere thanks to all Directors for their efforts and leadership at this time.



MEMBERS' OPPORTUNITY

As TAS has closed down its facility and classes, exhibitions, activities and events in line with responsible, mandatory COVID-19 requirements, your monthly newsletter will be a vital way of keeping members informed about Society news in the coming months.

You will note from the President's Report that the TAS exhibition program will 'recommence' from May as 'virtual/online' exhibitions, accessible on the TAS website and FaceBook page. Unfortunately the *45 x 45 Members Exhibition* cannot be presented in this way.

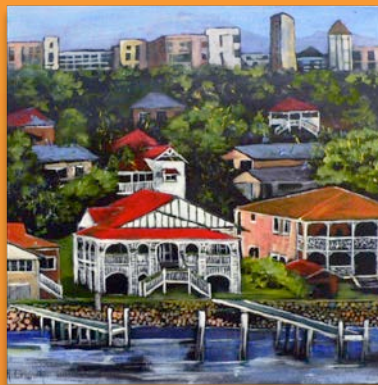
However, to provide an opportunity to show works prepared for this year's *45 x 45* show (and to provide some interesting visual content for the newsletter), members are invited to submit a 'quality' image of their 2020 canvases for inclusion in the next edition/s.

Please note the following 'Conditions for Inclusion'

- Images are to be of good quality, front-on view and of the whole canvas – showing all edges of the work and 'vertical' sides (see images below). The editor reserves the right to crop images to present a 'detail' view of the work if considered necessary or to exclude any work which is assessed by the editor as of poor quality.
- The artist's name, the name of the work and medium for each image submitted also must be provided to avoid exclusion by the editor.
- Images and artwork information **must be received by the due date below and ONLY to the editor's email – damalahvale@gmail.com**
- Two newsletter pages will be available for this 'exhibition' and depending on members' response, works may need to be 'selected' by the editor for the relevant monthly edition.
- By submitting images and artwork information, members accept these conditions.

DUE DATE for inclusion in the May Newsletter is 27 April 2020

(Due date for June's edition will be advised in May's newsletter)



Images of works from *45 x 45 Members Exhibition*, 2018

With thank to the artists