

Toowoomba Art Society NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026

EXHIBITIONS

24th Feb – 22nd March

Culliford Gallery – ‘What is It is Watt’ –
Pete Fitzpatrick and Friends

Perinet Gallery – ‘Books and Baskets’
– Elizabeth Schmidt and Sandra
Tessman

Official opening 28th Feb, 2pm

DATES TO REMEMBER IN MARCH

4th Bus trip to GOMA Brisbane



13th Entry forms due for Square
Exhibition.

20th Board meeting and newsletter
deadline.

22nd 2-4pm pick-up purchased items
from current exhibition. Drop-off Square
artworks.

23rd Hanging day.

24th Square and Small Works Exhibition.

*“The only time I feel alive is
when I’m painting”*
– Vincent Van Gogh



SQUARE EXHIBITION

Submission Deadline 13 March 2026

Any theme or subject – one submission per artist.

All artworks must be in a square format.

Maximum finished size, including framing: 1m²

Any media accepted: including, but not limited to drawing,
painting, textiles, collage, printmaking, mixed media, digital
media, photography, ceramics.

Artwork must be submitted with – artist’s name, title of work,
and medium on the back.

No entry fee. Works must be for sale.

D rings (minimum size 10mm) must be fitted to 2D works with
cord or wire stretched TAUT between them.

The D rings must be attached **10cm** (for large works) and **5cm**
(for small works) from the top of the frame.

Completed entry forms due 13th March.

Work is to be delivered on 22nd March.

Pick up Art 26th April between 2-4.

Open to all TAS members.

2026

24 March – 26 April

WITHCOTT HELIDON LIONS CLUB PRESENTS

foothills art show

2026

Art in the heart of Withcott!

The Foothills Art Show is a much-loved celebration of local
artists and photographers. We welcome new and existing
artists to participate in this fabulous local cultural event.

Friday 29th May 6pm-9.30pm
Saturday 30th May 10am-3pm
Sunday 31st May 8am-1pm



Steve Jones Community Centre
1 Honan St, Withcott
(Cnr Meadows Road)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As this is my first President's Report it's appropriate that I introduce myself. I've been a member of TAS for over twenty years. Over that time, I've transitioned from being a nervous beginner to becoming a confident artist happy to share some learned skills through tutoring classes and workshops. I clearly remember the first time I put an artwork forward at a member's exhibition. I was so anxious I could hardly look at the work on the wall. I suspect others at TAS could identify with that journey. I have much to be grateful for as a result of my ongoing membership of our great organisation.

I have a background in education and taught drama for twenty-five years. I had a midlife career change and qualified in Family Therapy and Family Dispute Resolution. I served on the board of Relationships Australia Queensland for ten years, two of those as Vice President.

It is a little daunting taking on the role of President of such a thriving organisation as TAS, but I have benefitted from the support of past and current board members, and I have become involved at committee level to make sure I grasp the big picture. I've set myself the task of visiting as many TAS groups as possible in the near future and meeting members I don't yet know.

I was very excited to learn this month that TAS membership has now swelled to 408! This presents some challenges as well as being a source of congratulation. We expect an increase in demand for classes, groups and workshops as well as more interest in member's exhibitions. All committees are conscious of the need to take on board this potential increase in demand. Perhaps there is someone reading this newsletter who has skills to share and might consider starting a group or taking a workshop.

I hope lots of you are putting the final touches on your art works for the Members Square Exhibition which opens at the end of March. Entry forms are due by Friday 13th March and delivery of works is on Sunday, 22nd of March. The Exhibition Committee is keen that we strive for a high level of presentation with special attention given to clean glass, mats, and frames. Don't forget to comply with appropriate 'D' rings for hanging - our hanging system, like most gallery hanging systems, can't cope with anything else. Check the details on your entry forms for further information.

Open Day on 8th February exceeded our expectations. Organizers were delighted with the response, and we have had some very positive feedback. If you didn't get to Open Day but you would like to consider volunteering for one of the TAS committees, please email your details to the TAS office: twba1godsall@gmail.com

Our email address is a good starting point for all communications with TAS. Anita, our Office Manager, can then forward your concerns and ideas to the relevant committee. The bigger our organisation gets the greater the need to streamline communication.

The board is constantly working to improve the experience of members. We are trying to increase transparency and accountability. At the moment we are looking into a member's portal which should improve communications. However, nothing happens as quickly as we might like, so meanwhile please read your newsletter and know that a copy of the minutes of board meetings is available in the library and board meetings are always open to TAS members and occur on the third Friday of the month at 1.30pm

Catherine Ketton
President TAS



Inverting Past, Present & Future -
Time Series by P Fitzpatrick



Homage to Fairweather by John
Archibald



Kreel & Sharks Manifesting as
Coloured Glass by A Dean



The March Never Ceases -
Refugee Series by P Fitzpatrick



Acorn by Sandra Tessman



Curtains by Elizabeth Schmidt



Black Book by Elizabeth Schmidt



Easter Basket by Sandra Tessman

Culliford Gallery

INVITATION
Toowoomba Art Society Presents
An Exhibition of works by

Pete Fitzpatrick

Supported by:
JOHN ARCHIBALD
VIVIENNE BOLAND CHARLIE BOYLE
ALAN DEAN MIKE GRICE
BILL MORTON & IAN THOMPSON

What is **It** is Watt

24TH FEBRUARY – 22ND MARCH 2026
CULLIFORD GALLERY TAS
1 GODSALL STREET TOOWOOMBA
OPENING HOURS:
TUE – FRI 9 – 12PM
SAT – SUN 10 – 2PM
CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS
Free entry. All welcome. Works for sale. Eftpos available

Perinet Gallery

TOOWOOMBA ART SOCIETY
invites you to the Perinet Gallery

Books & Baskets



Elizabeth Schmidt & Sandra Tessmann

24th February to 22nd March 2026
Official opening 2pm, 28th February

View the exhibition online at:

<https://toowoombaartsociety.com.au/>

Free entry. All welcome. Works for sale. Eftpos available.

Welcome New Members

We are delighted to extend a warm welcome to new members: Deborah Arnell, Frances Ball, Jobella Bennett, Ros Brown, Joy Coleman, Chriss Cowell, Brian and Judy Cullen, Lonna Dall'osto, Pierre Desmarchelier, Janette Eckersley, Helen Gibbs, Ruth Kani, Linda Kilpert, Rett Lewis, Jen Marshall, Janet Mayes, Diane Mc Beth, Colleen Morgan, Susan Morgan, Robyn Nagel (Welcome back), Elsie Robinson, Anita Ryle, Barb Somerville, Helen Steele, Fern Torcetti, Michelle Wiersma, Jason Willy and Sally Witherspoon.

We hope you enjoy your experience at TAS and that you make full use of our many facilities and friendly atmosphere.

You may also keep up to date with our web page – toowoombaartsociety.com.au and -Facebook page. We also have a noticeboard & printed materials in our corridor.

N.B. It is extremely important that if you pay for membership online using direct deposit, please forward confirmation of payment/bank transfer that you receive from the bank to twba1godsall@gmail.com

If you do not receive a receipt or membership card, it is most likely your payment could not be found.

Monthly Newsletter Contributions

Members are invited to submit news items and images which may be of interest to TAS members & local art organisations & communities and which may be published at the discretion of the editor.

Please email text in a Word document & photos as JPEG images as ATTACHMENTS to twba1godsall@gmail.com

Items for March newsletter are due by 20th March.

Purchased Artworks

Please pick up your purchased items from 2-4pm on the last day of the exhibition.

If for some reason you are not able to pick up your artwork, please contact the office and arrange a suitable time to collect your items.
Thank you!!

Please check your Membership Fees are up to date

Adult	\$60
Pensioner/Student	\$40
Family	\$75
Business/Institution	\$80

Payment may be made at TAS (cash or card) or by direct deposit.

TAS Office Hours

Office open hours are:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday from
9am – 12pm or by appointment.
Ph: 07 4632 5725

For Your Information

Board meetings are usually held in Studio 2 from 1.30pm on the 3rd Friday of the month.
The next Board meeting will be from 1.30pm on 20th March.

OPENING OF CABINET OF CURIOSITIES AND ODDS 'N' PODDS EXHIBITIONS

There was a lovely vibe for the opening of the 'The Cabinet of Curiosities', by the Zekants family, and the 'Odds n Podds', by Sherree Halliwell, Exhibitions.



Upcoming Exhibitions

MARCH: 24th Mar – 26th April Official Opening 28th @ 2pm

Culliford Gallery – 'Square' – TAS members

Perinet Gallery – 'Small Works' – Colleen Gardener



Thank you Peggy!

Since joining the Toowoomba Art Society in 1995, Peggy Vanderplas has been one of the TAS's most dedicated and enthusiastic members. After 15 years working as a retail and grocery manager in the Northern Territory, Peggy found a creative home with the Tuesday Paint and Spatter group, later becoming its leader in 2006. Under her guidance the group flourished, regularly presenting lively, high-quality exhibitions, often built around a shared theme.

Peggy has worn many hats over the years — housekeeper, librarian, membership, secretary, treasurer, gardener and board member, sometimes all at once. She firmly believes everyone should have the chance to “have a go,” helping make the Society a welcoming and supportive place for artists.

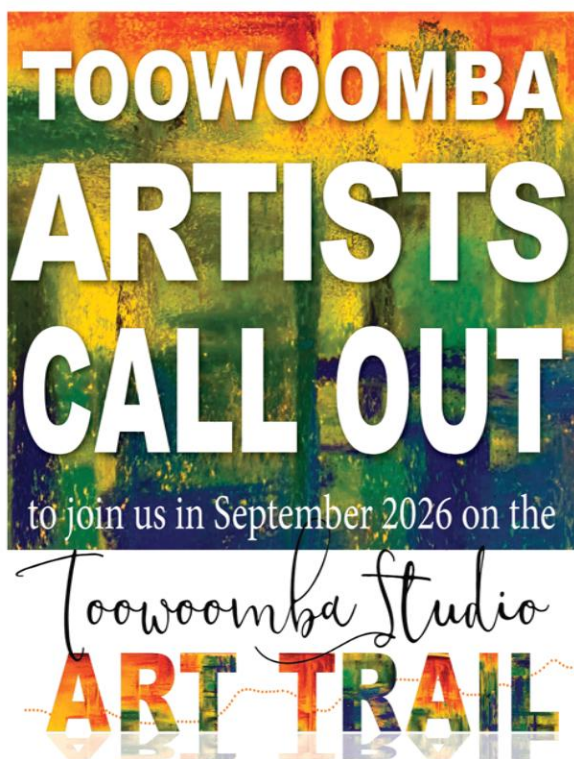
After stepping down as treasurer in 2017, Peggy took charge of the gardens, turning them into the attractive and welcoming gardens we have today. After hanging up her gardening gloves at the end of 2025, she has returned to organising bus trips to galleries in Brisbane, Warwick and Stanthorpe.



Thank you Sandra!

Sadly, we have had to say farewell to Sandra Willis who has been the friendly face of TAS for a number of years, and we take this opportunity to wish her and her family best wishes for her new endeavor. We also thank her for her dedication, kindness and willingness to assist all our members when required, and the countless number of enquiries and contacts that she attended to. As well, we thank her for her willingness and support to train Anita, our new office manager, making Anita's transition into the new position much easier.

Our thanks also to Sandra for taking on the role as temporary gardener. We will all miss Sandra's presence at TAS and look forward to seeing her again at TAS soon.



Artist Call-Out!

We're looking for local artists to join us on the Toowoomba Studio Art Trail in September! Now in its 4th year and getting bigger and better every year, the Trail connects local artists with the public through open studios, creativity, and community.

Here is your unique opportunity to open your private studio to the public every weekend in September.

To join us, you must:

Live in the 4350 postcode

Have an accessible studio

Apply by 30 March 2026

Visit our website to apply

www.toowoombastudioarttrail.com.au



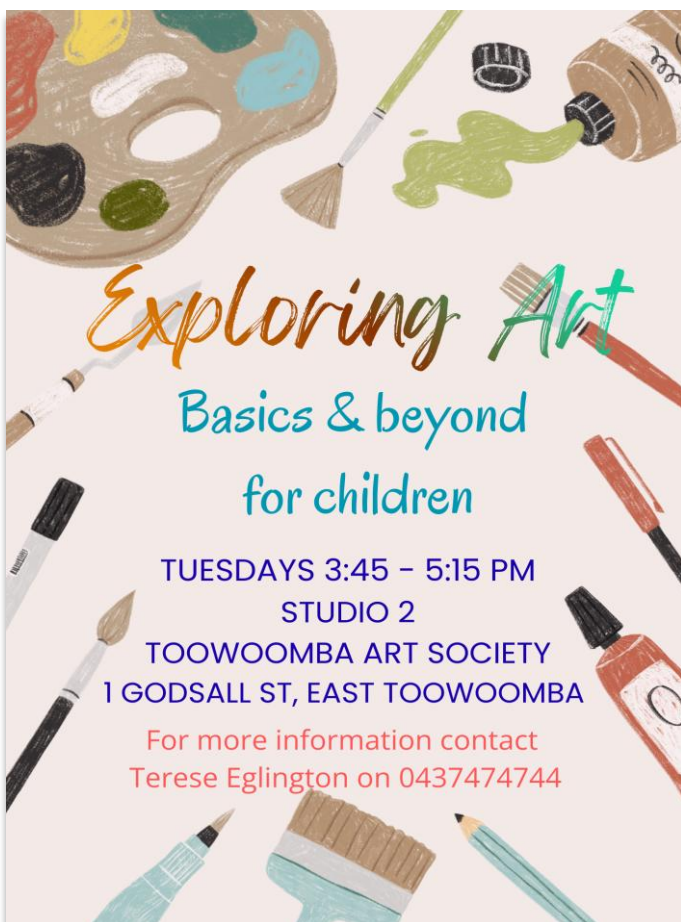
VALE BETTY SEARLE
25th April 1939 - 31st January 2026

It is with great sadness that we bid farewell to Betty, a much-loved member of TAS.

A self-taught oil artist, Betty's early years growing up in rural Qld and extensive travel throughout Australia paved the way for her Australian landscapes and florals in vibrant colours. Betty exhibited widely in Qld, solo, in groups and alongside her daughter Lisa and received many awards, most recently the Allan Bruce Landscape award at TAS's Centenary Members exhibition. Many of her pieces are retained in public and private collections.

Betty joined TAS in 2019 after relocating from Bundaberg and immediately became an active member of the society, always willing to be involved in the hanging of exhibitions, attending openings and sitting exhibitions.

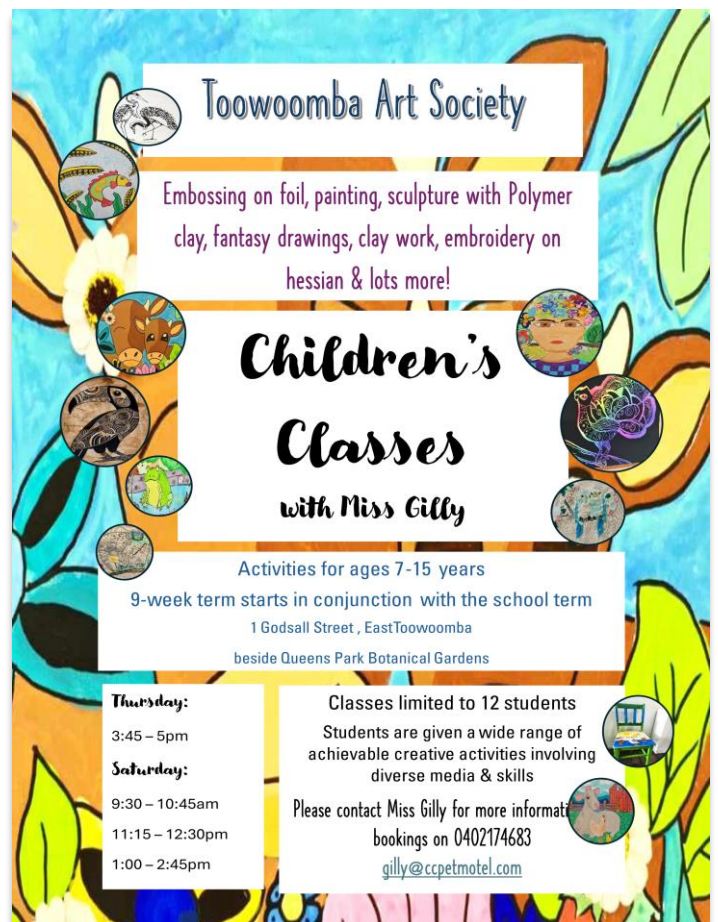
The Tuesday group will especially miss Betty, her quiet earnest conversations with Eddie, her wonderful sense of fun and enthusiastic interest in all thing's art. Betty always quietly encouraged and was genuinely interested in all artists in the Tuesday group. Her kindness, cheerfulness and get on with it attitude will be greatly missed at TAS.



Exploring Art
Basics & beyond
for children

TUESDAYS 3:45 – 5:15 PM
STUDIO 2
TOOWOOMBA ART SOCIETY
1 GODSALL ST, EAST TOOWOOMBA

For more information contact
Terese Eglington on 0437474744



Toowoomba Art Society

Embossing on foil, painting, sculpture with Polymer clay, fantasy drawings, clay work, embroidery on hessian & lots more!

Children's Classes
with Miss Gilly

Activities for ages 7-15 years
9-week term starts in conjunction with the school term
1 Godsall Street, East Toowoomba
beside Queens Park Botanical Gardens

Thursday:
3:45 – 5pm
Saturday:
9:30 – 10:45am
11:15 – 12:30pm
1:00 – 2:45pm

Classes limited to 12 students
Students are given a wide range of achievable creative activities involving diverse media & skills

Please contact Miss Gilly for more information
bookings on 0402174683
gilly@ccpetmotel.com

What a Great Open Day!





REV WATERCOLOUR CLASSES 2026 TERM 2 WITH BRUCE N.GRIFFITHS — WATERCOLOUR BEGINNINGS

Launch into 2026 with Bruce's tried & tested Watercolour classes for Term 2 at Studio 1, **TOOWOOMBA ART SOCIETY**; *for those starting & those who want refreshing*". You will receive lively, refreshed curriculum designed to quicken your art journey in watercolours. Bruce is a Grand Champion of Paintings (Toowoomba Royal Show both 2022 & 2023), Runner Up Professional Section WSQ 2025, Artist In Residence 2025 Falls Ck, CQU graduate, passionate about watercolour & ready to share his take on watercolour. Attending workshops & classes will quicken your journey." **"I offer revamped workshop curriculum & images each term."** We continue to discount for the artist! Spaces limited. We offer a choice of afternoon or evening classes (for those who work)! **Note: more experienced artists can sign up the specialty refresher class days.** Bruce has worked with world leaders in watercolour & will share tips, enthusiasm, skills & techniques, to master this exciting medium. Over 23 years of crafting his style & direction, multiple prize credits, 21 solo exhibitions & numerous joint exhibitions, it is time to share to take you to the next level. **A recommended materials list provided & certificate of completion at end of course.** This will lead into Term 2 Intermediate level course should you desire.

Tuesday afternoon From 12.30pm—4.00pm

Duplicate night class From 5.00pm—8.30pm

Email: **brucengriffiths@yahoo.com.au** or you can ph 0403 346229

Tuesday Week 1 - 24th MAR to Week 8 - 12th MAY 2026

www.brucegriffithswatercolours.com.au

