

Toowoomba Art Society NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026

Creativity is in full bloom at Toowoomba Art Society! Whether you're here to admire our latest exhibitions, celebrate our 1st Prize and Highly Commended winners, or pick up a new technique in one of our many classes, there is so much to be proud of this month. Dive into this edition to find our new Fact Sheet, and details on the Life Drawing raffle to be drawn at our AGM. Also, a Bus Trip!!

Exhibitions

28th April – 24th May

Culliford Gallery - 'Light Fantastic'
– Rosemary Williamson

Perinet Gallery - 'Vonsing - A Little Bit Eclectic' - Jaye Singleton and Liz Vonhoff

Official opening 2nd May at 2pm

Dates to Remember

4th May Labour Day (Office Closed)

9th May AGM AT 3:00pm

25th May Hanging Day

26th May Opening - Look & See and Frivolous Quotes Exhibitions.

30th May Official opening at 2pm

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time."
– Thomas Merton



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

April

I've been in the role of President for a few months now and I'm beginning to find my feet. What I'm struck by is the competence and energy of those around me. Since the beginning of the year, we have welcomed two new board members, Dr Shama Morris and a returning member, Deidre Rutherford. They are both working at committee level too.

The Governance Committee is busy updating our policies and procedures to make sure we're compliant with the ACNC (Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission) and fit for our growing community of artists.

The Budget and Finance Committee has doubled its membership and is keen to meet the costs of maintaining our lovely facility as well as making sure there is provision for Toowoomba Art Society to thrive into the future. We are the beneficiaries of a generous legacy from the Culliford estate, so we need to manage our finances thoughtfully. The Maintenance Committee has a huge task. Lisa McInerney, who is also Secretary to the Board, has an eye for all things maintenance, from dripping taps to installing a new window in the printmaker's space. Lisa's energy leaves me breathless. She saw the need for a working bee earlier this month to take care of those details that Gail our cleaner doesn't have time for. Many thanks to those of you that turned up for the cleaning bee, I think we can be proud of our efforts. The Exhibition and Workshop Committee has also increased its membership and is focused on making the exhibition experience better for the exhibiting artists and the gallery visitors. We are also keen to make sure that workshops at TAS are of high quality and meet the needs of members.

The Hanging Committee doesn't meet to discuss issues; they are busy one Monday a month hanging the art works in the latest exhibition. They did an exceptional job with this month's square exhibition. They had a daunting task. There were over a hundred works, but they managed to hang them beautifully, and the gallery looked great. There was a wide variety of mediums, styles and genres and it seemed that members had heeded the call to refine presentation. We can be proud of the resulting exhibition.

At this stage we are able to hang all compliant artworks entered and I hope we can continue that practice. Unfortunately, there were a couple of works which didn't match our criteria re size, shape and hanging instructions. I understand how disappointing that must be for members, so I do urge you to check requirements carefully for our forthcoming members exhibition in September.

Our Annual General Meeting is on the 9th of May at 2.30pm. If you want to get the big picture of how TAS functions, this is the place to be. Please consider putting yourself forward for one of the committees or for membership of the board. An organisation like ours is dependent on the goodwill of volunteers.

But meanwhile keep doing what you like doing - making art and making more art - that's what we're here for.

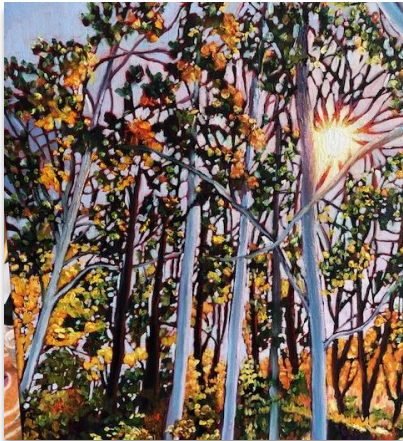
Catherine Ketton
President



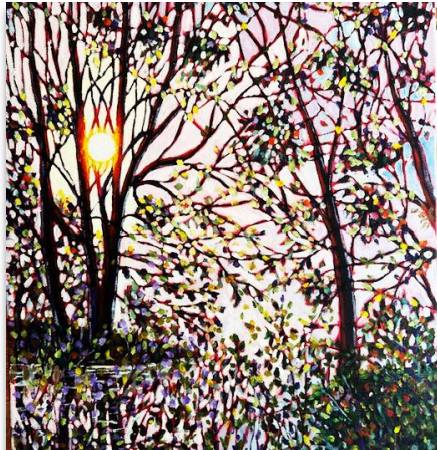
Light and Shade by Rosemary Williamson



Show Stopper by Rosemary Williamson



The Green and The Gold by Rosemary Williamson



Water's Edge by Rosemary Williamson



Raspberry Ripple by Jaye Singleton



Lead Me Astray by Liz Vonhoff



I Spy Pear Crumble by Liz Vonhoff



Rivergum by Jaye Singleton

Culliford Gallery

TOOWOOMBA ART SOCIETY

Invites you to the Culliford Gallery

LIGHT FANTASTIC



By Rosemary
Williamson

28th April – 24th May

Official Opening: 2pm, 2 May 2026

View the exhibition online at:

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

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

Perinet Gallery

TOOWOOMBA ART SOCIETY

PERINET GALLERY

OFFICIAL EXHIBITION OPENING
SATURDAY 2 MAY – 2PM

VONSING

A little bit eclectic



FEATURED ARTISTS

JAYE SINGLETON & LIZ VONHOFF



Welcome New Members

We are delighted to extend a warm welcome to new members: Wendy Allen, Ann Bailey, Robert Baillie Smith, Garry Dolan, Collette Garnham, Gillian Tassan, Sharon Wilkinson.

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 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 May newsletter are due by **15th of May**.

For Your Information

Board meetings are usually held in Studio 2 from 1.30pm on the 3rd Friday of the month.

Board meeting will be from 1:30pm on **15th May.**

The AGM will be from 3:00pm on **9th May.**

Please check your Membership Fees

Adult \$60

Pensioner/Student \$40

Family \$75

Business/Institution \$80

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



Save the Date

**The Toowoomba Art Society AGM
will be held at 3:00 pm on
Saturday, May 9, 2026**

All members and interested parties are encouraged to attend. Arrive at 2:45pm for drinks. Drinks and nibbles provided by TAS. Also don't forget the:

LIFE DRAWING RAFFLE DRAWN!



‘SQUARE’

&

‘Small Works’

It was wonderful seeing everyone at our two recent exhibitions! The atmosphere was fantastic, and we all had a very enjoyable time. A special thanks to everyone who entered the Life Drawing raffle – it was a real highlight of the event!



Upcoming Exhibitions

MAY: 26th May – 21st June Official Opening 30th May @ 2pm

Culliford Gallery – ‘Look & See’ – Artists Books

Perinet Gallery – ‘Frivolous Quotes’ – Peggy Vanderplas and Rhonda Jenner

Congratulations TAS members!

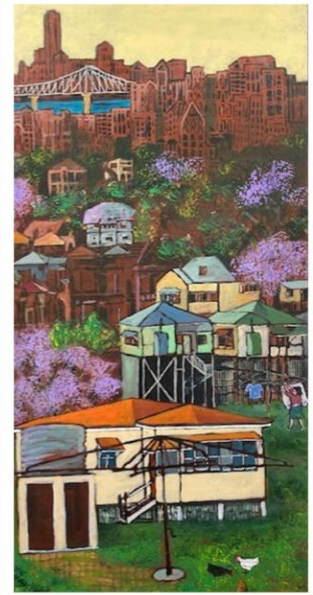
Toowoomba Royal Show Entrants

Heather Sullivan: 1st prize in the Open Section and 2 Highly commended

Ros Cranch: 1 Highly Commended



Brahmans by Heather Sullivan



Backyards and Buildings
by Ros Cranch



Bruce Griffiths
Toowoomba Royal Show Grand Champion
of Paintings 2026
Selected artist World Wide Art Books 2026
International Juried Art 11th Flowers 2026
(Hon. Mention)
Representative Milan's Urbino
in Acquerello 2026
We have been busy!

What has the Facilities Committee been doing?

Since August 2025 we've been improving, repairing and maintaining TAS premises to last another 100 years. Including:

1. Installed CrimSafe security screens on all windows
2. Professionally cleaned windows, inside and out, and the gutters
3. Godsall St façade painted a fetching dark blue
4. Had a Cleaning Bee
5. Storeroom wall built in Studio 2
6. Fire extinguishers and smoke alarms certified
7. Defibrillator installed
8. Gardener hired
9. Lockbox installed in the office door
10. Motion sensor CCTV cameras waiting to be installed
11. Kitchen, back shed and storage spaced tidied up
12. Small repair jobs done!

You're welcome.

A huge thankyou to the wonderful members who regularly do those little cleaning jobs that make TAS an inviting place to be.





In the Friday Morning Drawing and More classes, Sue McMaster recently gave a demonstration of how to make the back of your artworks ready for hanging. For some of us this was a revelation, because there can be quite a lot going on to make your work look as good on the back as it does on the front. She will repeat this class later in the year, so watch for this in the newsletter. Sue has provided a helpful picture of Gallery Standard D Rings, as required by our hard-working Hanging Committee.

Don't complicate art supply shopping - get the right thing first time. If in doubt, don't open the package - remember, some hardware stores have good return policies.

VALE MARGARET IRWIN

21 December 1933 – 19 March 2026



It is with sadness and respect that the Toowoomba Art Society marks the passing of Margaret Irwin. Margaret was a stalwart committee member for many years, especially during some of the earlier challenging times of transition. With the then president, John Maslin, Margaret guided the Society through the crucial period of drawing up plans for a new building, the sale for removal of the old Culliford House, and the eventual construction and opening of the new Culliford House which we know and love today. Margaret is also lovingly remembered for her tiny savory muffins, finger sandwiches, and flamboyant cheese platters that were highlights of every exhibition opening.

TAS Bus Trip

Expressions of interest
for a bus trip to Warwick.

I'm waiting for some
quotes, but
Pencil in the date
Wednesday 22 July
2026.

Text Peggy if you are
interested:
0409601952



The 2026 Jumpers and
Jazz in July festival in
Warwick, Queensland,
will take place from **July
16 to July 26, 2026**. This
10-day winter festival features over
100 events, including renowned tree
yarnbombing, live jazz music in pubs,
markets, and workshops. It is held
annually over two main weekends in
late July.



ART & MINDFULNESS WORKSHOP

Thursday
evenings:
23 April
30 April
7 May

5.30pm to
7.30pm

Toowoomba Art
Society
1 Godsall Street
Toowoomba

Cost: \$150 for
three sessions

To book your place
contact
ImmersionArts
Trish Davis
0429 326 066

Slow down, breathe out, and reconnect
with your creative self in this gentle
three-part series blending mindfulness and
expressive painting. Each Thursday
evening, you will be guided through
calming practices and beginner-friendly
art techniques designed to help you
unwind and explore colour with
confidence.

What's Included:

- A short guided mindfulness practice to settle the body and mind
- Step-by-step painting guidance on techniques
- All material provided, just bring yourself and a willingness to play
- A welcome space for beginners and curious creatives alike

Alana Wilkie's

**6 WEEK ALL LEVELS DRAWING COURSE
TOOWOOMBA ART SOCIETY**

PORTRAITURE DRAWING COURSE

27TH MAY - 1ST JULY

WEDNESDAY'S 6.30 - 8.30PM

**TO BOOK EMAIL:
alanawilkieartist@gmail.com**

\$300

Toowoomba Art Society Communication fact sheet

Introduction

Toowoomba Art Society is growing. With this growth, there are increased challenges. The Board have developed this communication fact sheet to help streamline member communications. This will improve privacy, transparency and consistency with the flow of information between the members and the board and vice versa.

Member communication

All member correspondence is to go to The Toowoomba Art Society email address:
twba1godsall@gmail.com

What do I do if I want to contribute or advertise in the monthly Newsletter?

- Submit news items and images which may be of interest to TAS members, community groups and art lovers.
- Email text in a Word document & photos as JPEG images as ATTACHMENTS to twba1godsall@gmail.com.
- Include **Newsletter contribution** in the subject heading of your email.
- The deadline for the newsletter is **5.00 pm on the third Friday of the month**.

Inclusion in the Newsletter will be at the discretion of the Editor.

What do I do if I have a Newsletter issue?

- Email twba1godsall@gmail.com and include **Newsletter issue** in the subject heading, and a summary of the matter in your email. Your email will be forwarded to the TAS Secretary

What do I do if I've noticed a problem such as a leaking tap, cracked window etc.?

- Email twba1godsall@gmail.com with the issue in the subject heading, and a summary of the matter in your email. Your email will be forwarded to the Facilities committee.

What do I do if I have a Health and Safety issue?

- Email twba1godsall@gmail.com with the **WHS issue** in the subject heading, and a summary of the matter in your email. Your email will be forwarded to the Governance committee.

What do I do if I would like to have an exhibition, hire a studio or run a workshop?

- Email twba1godsall@gmail.com with the matter in the subject heading, and a summary of the matter in your email. Your email will be forwarded to Exhibition and Workshops committee.

What do I do if I have a complaint?

Toowoomba Art Society has a [Code of Conduct](#) that sets the framework for member conduct. In a nutshell it requires all TAS members to be treated equally with respect and friendliness in a safe environment; and that the best interests of TAS are at the core of our activities and decisions. Our [Complaints Procedure](#) on our website steps you through what to do and how the matter will be managed. If you are unsure about what to do:

- Email twba1godsall@gmail.com with the issue in the subject heading, and a summary of the matter in your email. Your email will be forwarded to the relevant committee(s).

Are members able to attend a Board meeting?

Members are welcome to attend board meetings.

During "in camera" meetings where sensitive or confidential matters are being discussed, it is not appropriate for members to be present. "In camera" meeting protocols have been developed.

To put an item on the agenda for the next Board meeting:

- Email twba1godsall@gmail.com, with "Agenda Item" as the subject heading. Include the agenda item in your email. The deadline for agenda items is one (1) week before the Board meeting. Your email will be forwarded to TAS Secretary.

!!! Date Claimer !!!

Toowoomba Plein Air Artist of the Year Painting Competition

Date: 28.11.2026

Time 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Announcement of Winners in the afternoon at the Toowoomba Art Society

This open Plein Air competition welcomes artists of all levels.

An independent guest judge from outside Toowoomba will be judging the winners of both events.

1. Best Landscape / Plein Air Painting of the Competition Day (Prize Money)
2. Best Plein Air Work from the Group (Annual Award)

(Entry forms will be available soon)

*Join our group for monthly paint outs and updates:
Facebook group: Plein Air Artist Toowoomba and Region*



Raffle

To be drawn at the AGM

9th May

The Life Drawing Group is offering as a raffle prize, this beautiful Klimt Quilt, as featured at our 2023 Klimt Life Drawing Event.

Proceeds going to updated spotlight for life drawing

Quilt by Quilt Craft

166 Holberton St
Newtown



You are invited to the
opening of *Life Lines*



An exhibition of Watercolours by Debi Thornely

3pm, 9 May 2026

Toowoomba Repertory Theatre



WATERCOLOUR CLASSES 2026 TERM 3 with BRUCE N. GRIFFITHS



WATERCOLOUR PROGRESSIVE/INTERMEDIATE

Studio 1, TOOWOOMBA ART SOCIETY;

“for those completed beginners, those with brush mileage and advanced students seeking tips & techniques to take them to the next level.”

You will explore the natural beauty of Australia real & imagined. Expect to be challenged and to have fun. We aim to complete a painting each session!

- **Three times Toowoomba Royal Show Grand Champion of Paintings '22, '23 & '26.**
- **Selected artist World Wide Art Books 2026**
- **Winning Finalist 3rd International Budapest Art Show 2025**
- **International Juried Art 11th Flowers 2026 (Hon. Men)**
- **Representative Milan's Urbino in Acquerello 2026**
- **Runner Up Professional Section Watercolour Society Qld 2025**
- **Toowoomba Royal Show 2nd Watercolour 26 & 1st Watercolour 25.**
- **Artist in Residence Falls Creek 2025. CQU graduate, & past McGregor & AOTB tutor, prize-winning artist, exhibitor & sought after for commissions & workshops.**
- **Long term watercolour tutor (32 terms) & member of Toowoomba Art Society. Member of Watercolour Society Qld & Vic.**

Bruce is passionate about watercolour & ready to share skills & enthusiasm to master this exciting medium. He has now 24 years of crafting his direction & style, multiple prize credits, 21 solo exhibitions & numerous joint exhibitions, it's time to share his love of watercolour. “Attending workshops & classes will quicken your journey.” Learn what it takes to add emotional content to a scene through instruction and constructive critique, and how to put your personal stamp on the work. Expect to cover a range of subjects from simple compositions of seascapes, landscapes, street scenes, sea & country all. We will work through the “4 Pillars of Watercolour”.

Students receive personal attention. Practical painting demos, your own painting time & assistance hands off & hands on as you require. Simplify & loosen up your watercolours. Advanced curriculum & new images, a stimulus to an exciting class not to be missed. Recommended materials list will be provided.

Tuesday afternoon From 12.30pm—4.00pm

Tuesday evening From 5.00pm—8.30pm

Tue Wk 1 - 19th MAY to Wk 8 - 14th JUL 2026

BRUCE GRIFFITHS WATERCOLOURS

www.brucegriffithswatercolours.com.au

brucengriffiths@yahoo.com.au 0403 346229