



Annual General Meeting of the Pastel Society of Victoria, Australia

Held on Monday 30th October 2023 at 7.30pm and via Zoom

The Meeting opened 7.35pm

Present: Patron: Andrew Mackenzie
Committee: Roz Long, Isabelle McKenzie, Caroline Lewallen, Kerryn Young,
Lyn Leine, Eileen Broderick, Julie Kok, Kerrie Carter, Helen Permezel

Total of members, giving us a quorum of 40 in total - 24 in the Hall and 17 on Zoom

Apologies: Regina Hona & Janette Garbuio, (both overseas) Denise Tomlinson, Marian Strong

Welcome:

Roz welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open at 7.38pm.

She then gave Acknowledgement of Country.

Roz outlined the meeting procedure as follows, noting that all reports had been sent out online on October 9 2023. The Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting will be read, and once confirmed, Andrew Mackenzie will hold the chair while elections are carried out. Roz expressed hope that people would be stepping forward to fill the vacant positions. After this, the elected President will then take over. There will be a brief supper with the Critique session to follow. Helen Permezel was then invited to read the Minutes of the 2022 AGM.

Confirmation of the Minutes and Reports of the 2022 Annual General Meeting, and motion of acceptance moved by Andrew Mackenzie and accepted by Helen Permezel.

Reports for 2023 all sent via email on October 9:

President – Roz Long

Treasurer – Kerryn Young

Sponsorship - Julie Kok

Workshops - Kerrie Carter

Membership – Regina Hona

John Withers Scholarship Program – Caroline Lewallen

Treasurer's Report for the 2022/23 Financial year – Kerryn Young

The accounts have been audited and the auditor's report has been sent via a link to all members so I will just outline the key points.

I am happy to report that the Society continues to be in a sound financial position. At the start of the year, we had total funds of \$64,220 and by June 30th this had increased to \$70854. Total income for the year was \$40,245 and total expenses were \$33,612, generating a surplus of \$6,634 for the year.

We have had an increase in workshop income and expenses with the larger number of well attended workshops this year. All workshops covered costs. Overall, we anticipate a similar budget for next year.

As this is my last report as Treasurer I would like to thank past and present presidents and committee members for their assistance, support and friendship during my 6 years as treasurer and committee member.

Sponsorship Coordinator – Julie Kok

We are pleased to announce that most of our sponsors have been happy to continue with their support of the Pastel Society of Victoria, Australia. Their ongoing support is appreciated, and we hope that members will continue to support them when buying their art products. Please make yourselves known to the respective sponsors so that they know you are supporting them.

With the downturn in market sales the Victorian Artists Supplies have reduced their commitment, and Deans Art and Art Stretchers are no longer able to support the Society. We thank them for their support, and we hope that you continue to support these art shops so that they will be able to come on board again for 2024! Terry Ludwig Pastels have increased their level back to previous years support.

The sponsor's contributions for 2023 are listed below:

Sponsor	Amount	Type
Bivcorp	\$2500	Cash
Art Spectrum	\$1000	Products
Canson	\$500	Products
Senior Art Supplies	\$500	Vouchers
The Art Shop	\$500	Vouchers
Arthouse Direct	\$500	Vouchers
Victorian Artist Supplies	\$100	Vouchers
One Agency Sunbury	\$250	Cash
Rowville Picture Framing	\$250	Voucher
Terry Ludwig Pastels	US\$250	Voucher
Chris Lourey		Gift

Thank you to all our sponsors.

Membership Coordinator : Regina Hona

As of 1st September, 2023

HONORARY Members - 11

FINANCIAL Members - 191 (including 4 Scholarship holders)

Total Members for the 2023 year = 202

These numbers are an increase on our total numbers for 2022 of 186 members. In spite of the usual fluctuation in membership, it has grown steadily during 2023 with 37 new members. We also have 28 COMPLIMENTARY Members, consisting of our PATRON and other art societies, plus 16 SPONSORS to whom we send our newsletters.

Our online database makes it easier to give a further breakdown of the 2023 members that live outside of our 50km radius. These consist of:

25 — INTERSTATE Members and

40 — COUNTRY Members.

My thanks must go to Sharon Martin, our Webmaster for her mountain of ongoing voluntary work, before, during and after the transition from our manual system to the new online membership registration and payment system. It's made my role as Membership Co-ordinator more streamlined and efficient. I wish to also thank our Treasurer, Kerry Young, who has collaboratively worked with me to implement this new process. Together with Sharon, we're continually working to make the

process as simple and as clear as possible for our members, as we know some of you had difficulties. Should you ever need assistance to renew your membership, please contact me so that I can help.

I'm also excited to announce that as of this year, the PSVA shall be awarding MEMBERSHIP PINS to our long-standing members for their years of support. These will be for 10, 15 and 20 years of Membership. Due to the large number of pins to be awarded in our initial year, they will be presented to members at our 2024, General Meeting on February 5. Financial and Honorary Members who are to receive a pin will be notified in due course, and we hope as many as possible can attend on that date, so we can acknowledge their membership support with an appropriate pin.

Workshop Report – Kerrie Carter

The PSVA ran 4 workshops in 2023. All were conducted at the Ferntree Gully Community Arts Centre. This proved to be a great venue with good space, light and facilities. It has easy access and parking, and also supports those travelling a long distance with good accommodation nearby.

The workshops were as follows:

1. 'Still Life and Landscape Pastel Workshop' was held by Max Wilks on February 4 & 5, with 17 participants.
2. 'Landscape and Figures in Pastel' workshop' was held by Ross Paterson on June 3 & 4, with 16 participants.
3. 'Portraits in Pastels' workshop was held by David Wells on August 5 & 6, with 16 participants.
4. 'Unlocking the Mysteries of Pastels' was conducted by Caroline Lewallen and Lyn Mellady on September 9 & 10, with 8 participants in total: 4 John Withers Scholarship recipients and 4 other participants.

Feedback for all workshops has been very positive; any small issues raised have been addressed. A "Paint Away" is planned for March 1-3, 2024. The workshop weekend will be held in Queenscliff with tutor Regina Hona, and is currently fully booked. Planning is underway for The 2024 Workshop Calendar, and consultation has commenced with eight potential tutors for weekend workshops next year.

John Withers Scholarship: - Caroline Lewallen

John Withers funded the 2023 program with a generous donation of \$2500 to the PSVA. At the time of this report the program is well underway. It is anticipated that the JWSP 2023 will run in a similar manner to last year.

The 2023 Program includes:

- 16 hours of tuition in a workshop environment Participation in PSVA meetings including membership (one year)
- Attendance at one additional PSVA workshop (half price)
- Entry to the PSVA Annual Exhibition with a dedicated section and prize
- Mentorship program
- Art supplies such as pastels, surfaces and more Inspirational, educational material/text
- Financial support with framing
- Certificate of completion
- Graduation dinner/social event inc. John Withers, Andrew McKenzie, mentors, organisers, PSVA committee members and participants (cost not covered by the JWSP).

Participant Criteria: The aim was to have two places filled by current emerging PSVA members and two from outside the PSVA. A total of 15 applications were received which was very encouraging. Unfortunately several of the external applications were incomplete and therefore were unable to be considered. Three PSVA members and one non member were chosen.

The 2023 Participants are:

- Helen Corney (non member)
- Mark Pearce (PSVA member)
- Marian Strong (PSVA member)
- Kerrie Nicholls (PSVA member)

Participant criteria remained unchanged from the 2022 program. One applicant (Sonya Bading) was accepted, but being unable to attend the Two Day Workshop was disqualified. She accepted a guaranteed place in the 2024 program.

Financial: Each of the four Program recipients received benefits to the value of \$625.00. Participants will not receive the money directly, but as indicated in the list below. The 2023 Program almost came in on budget with a deficit of \$133.00.

Each Participant receives:

- Workshop attendance \$200
- Art materials \$80
- PSVA Membership (1 year) \$85
- Annual Exhibition Encouragement Prize \$25 (winning prize value \$100)
- PSVA Annual Exhibition entry \$40
- Framing Voucher value \$70
- Printing Advertising material \$40

Support provided from the PSVA:

- Program design and implementation
- Tutors to deliver educational workshop content (paid)
- PSVA Mentorship for one year
- Half price entry to one PSVA workshop in 2023/24
- PSVA Annual Membership one year
- Entry Fee for Monthly PSVA Meetings for 12 months
- Art materials
- Certificate of Completion of The John Withers Emerging Pastel Artists Program – supported by the PSVA
- Program auditing including feedback collection

Workshop Details: The 'Mysteries of Pastel Workshop' was held 9th - 10th September at the Ferntree Gully Community Centre. This was an excellent space and could be recommended for future workshops. It was open to Non-Members and Members of the PSVA. A total of 9 people participated. Their entry fee covered some of the costs of the venue, printing, tutors fee, refreshments etc. Tutors for the program were Caroline Lewallen and Lyn Mellady. The Program content included the characteristics of pastels (assorted brands), surfaces, underpainting, framing and the history of pastels and other topics. A comprehensive handout/booklet was prepared for all participants. It included an agenda, tutors biography, JWSP summary, History of Pastels summary and much more.

Mentorship: Feedback forms from the 2022 participants revealed that the Mentorship part of the program was the weakest component. Communication of the tutor's role and the role of the student requires greater emphasis. It is planned that Zoom meetings will be used to bring the Mentors and students together at various intervals so each party is better supported and has access to each other in a formal setting.

Feedback: A feedback form will be distributed to JWSP participants at conclusion of the 2023 program. This will be used to improve the program in 2024.

Caroline Lewallen, Roz Long and Kerrie Carter (JWSP Sub Committee 2023)

President's Report: - Roz Long

Over the past 12 months the PSVA has been active in promoting the pastel medium through all of its activities. It has been such a positive year with so much to give our members by way of workshops, demonstrations at our monthly meetings, together with prize giveaways, paint outs, and the Annual Exhibition in November, and all with the support of our wonderful sponsors. We have sold out the Queenscliff paint-away in March next year, with Regina Hona being our tutor. Next year promises to be just as exhilarating as 2023.

It has been my pleasure to take over the realm from Past President, Isabelle McKenzie, who did an amazing job for 3 years including Covid times. Unfortunately, Isabelle along with Kerryn Young, Caroline Lewellen and Janette Garbuio will be stepping down. These four amazing women have given so much to the Society over the years. It will be sad to see them go from the committee. Thankfully, some will still be available to assist us in the future.

Caroline Lewellen has worked in a number of roles during her time on the committee. She has steered the successful Members Encouragement Awards (MEAs) over the years and has now handed that on to Maureen Harley and Nola Cameron. Caroline has also been involved in organising the John Withers Scholarship Program with Kerrie Carter and myself. Caroline also held the role of Sponsorship Coordinator and Vice President for many years; her work in both roles was extraordinary. The John Withers Scholarship Program is now its 2nd year. We have just welcomed Mark Pearce, Helen Coney, Kerry Nicholls and Marian Strong as our scholarship participants for 2023. A big thank you goes to John Withers and Andrew Mackenzie, for having the forethought of getting this initiative off the ground, and for their generous support.

Janette Garbuio has also worked on the committee for a number of years. She has planned the paint outs and assisted with planning of the demonstration's program. She has done an amazing job and will be continuing her plein air sessions even though she will no longer be on the committee.

Lastly, Isabelle McKenzie guided the society through Covid, which included organising the monthly zoom meetings. She oversaw the presentation of the first PSVA Signature Awards with Anne Taylor, and was instrumental in moving our annual exhibition online during Covid. She also has been the editor of our ENewsletters: an inspiration to the society and to me personally! We will miss Isabelle and her dedication to the Society.

A big shout out must go to Julie Kok who has been looking after our generous sponsors. She has also assisted with our monthly meetings, Paint outs and particularly with the Exhibitions. Helen Permezel has come on board as our secretary and has done an amazing job keeping us on track. Lyn Leine has assisted with our zoom meetings this year along with Norm Hansen, Ben Winspear, Caroline Lewellen and Isabelle McKenzie. For their help we are deeply indebted.

This year our AGM was moved to the end of October due to a number of the committee members being away overseas. This included me, Janette Garbuio, and Membership Officer, Regina Hona. Memberships have grown steadily over the year. One initiative of Regina's has been to set up and thank our long-term members with 10, 15 and 20 year Membership Pins. These will be presented to our members early next year.

We held 8 monthly meetings this year; all were made available via zoom and were held at the hall. This has been a successful combination for all of our members.

Our 2023 Meeting Program included:

February - Linda Finch: Skies and Atmosphere (pastel);

March - Janet Mathew's demonstration was moved to July as there was no meeting held;

April - Thelma Cardwell: People in the Landscape (pastel);

May - Maxine Wade (mixed media);

June - Ross Paterson: Landscape and Figures (pastel);

July - Janet Mathews: drawing technique;

August - David Wells: Portraiture in pastel;

September- Michael Goff: Landscape in pastel;

October - A critique session with Caroline Lewellen, Ben Winspear and Heather Peberdy will follow our AGM. Thanks so much to our members who have offered their work to be critiqued. Likewise to Andrew Mackenzie, our Patron, who will take over the proceedings for the AGM and also open our Exhibition.

Workshops held during the year were booked out. Thanks so much to Kerrie Carter for her efficient organising skills.

The 2023 Workshop program included:

Max Wilks - Still Life and Landscapes (deferred from last year due to sickness)

Ross Paterson - Landscapes and Figures

David Wells (from Queensland) - Pastel Portraiture

John Withers Scholarship Program Workshop - tutored by Caroline Lewellen and Lyn Mellady and expertly organised by Kerrie Carter. This was held in September for the Scholarship winners, with a number of other members taking part. I would like to thank all our presenters for their preparation and engaging demonstrations and workshops, which have inspired and motivated us to explore new genres and mediums, try new techniques and learn new skills.

Paint-outs this year have been held at the following locations:

San Remo - February

Abbotsford convent - March

Yarrowood Estate - April

Lilydale Lake - May

NGV Melbourne - June

July and August - winter and no paint outs

Monsalvat - September

Rhododendron Gardens, Dandenong Ranges- October

November and December- no paint outs

Thank you to Janette Garbuio and Julie Kok for running the paint-outs again this year.

Shortly you will receive the 4th edition of the VicPastel News for 2023 produced by the team of members. This team is led by Kelly Grace, and I would like to thank Kelly, Joan Tallent, Lynda Tallent, Lyn Mellady, Eileen Broderick, Lynda Robinson, Gayle Newcombe; and Dorothy Welton for their work in producing the VicPastel News. Eileen has also been instrumental in coordinating the VPN work schedule.

The Signature Awards have now totalled 20 members being awarded. The PSVA has continued to be well supported by our Sponsors. Julie Kok has taken on the role of Sponsorship Coordinator, supported by Caroline Lewellen. Julie has ensured regular communication with our sponsors throughout the year, and we are very grateful for their continued support and for Julie's tireless work. Our membership numbers have remained strong, and we have been pleased to welcome new members this year. Our Membership Secretary, Regina Hona has overseen the membership program, taking over from Linda Finch who retired last year.

Much of the work of the committee goes on behind the scenes with all committee members working on different projects at different times. As you will see from the Financial Report, Kerry Young has done an excellent job in ensuring that we manage our finances prudently. Finally, Eileen Broderick, in her role as Librarian has been updating the library list of books and DVDs available to members, with a plan to make this available online.

Another key aspect of our work is maintaining our website and online communications. Sharon Martin has overseen the upgrade of our website, and its migration to a new server. She has also developed the online payment system. She also regularly posts on our social media platforms. I am very grateful to Sharon for her expertise in this area and for the many hours of service that she has provided. A brilliant job!

I have enjoyed my role over the past 12 months and without the support of our hard working committee and supporters we would not have had the program we've had for our members. A big thank you. We look forward to welcoming our new committee on board.

Roz Long
President, PSVA

Motion to accept the Reports for 2023 as published:

Moved: Caroline Lewallen

Seconded: Kerrie Carter

At this point, Roz handed over the meeting to Andrew Mackenzie who took the Chair for the elections. Andrew apologised for being unable to attend many meetings through the year due to illness. He mentioned how thrilled John Withers was with the Scholarship Program, having expressed a desire that this should continue into the future. John will be present at the Christmas function. Andrew praised the work of the Society as being a society of friends, and charged people to consider putting their names forward for the Committee. He also made a plea for help with the 10 boxes of Society Archives that he can no longer store, hoping that someone might step up as an archivist to help put these historical documents online. Andrew then declared all positions vacant, congratulating the Committee for 2023 and wishing those moving on all the best.

Election of the Committee

There is provision for 12 Committee positions in the PSVA Rules.

President: Nomination of Roz Long, continuing for the second year of a 2 year term

Accepted: Roz

Vice-President: No nomination. Isabelle McKenzie stepping down.

Position declared vacant

Treasurer: No nomination. Kerry Young stepping down

Position declared vacant

Secretary: Nomination of Helen Permezel, continuing for the second year of a 2 year term

Accepted: Helen Permezel

Membership Secretary: Nomination of Regina Hona, continuing on for the second year of a 2 year term

Accepted: Regina Hona

Correspondence Secretary: Vacant

Paintout Coordinator: Vacant

Call for nominations for Committee positions (Positions available)

Nominations received from :

1. Julie Kok
2. Eileen Broderick
3. Lyn Leine
4. Kerrie Carter

The above nominations were accepted unanimously.

Roz thanked and congratulated retiring members, especially Isabelle McKenzie (Past President and Vice President for the last 2 years); Caroline Lewallen (for over 10 years on the Committee) and Kerry Young (for over 6 years on the Committee as Treasurer). Also, to Janette Garbuio, who has looked after Paint Outs over the years. Her service will be acknowledged on her return from overseas. Roz then presented gifts and certificates of appreciation to Isabelle, Caroline and Kerry. Kelly Grace and Eileen Broderick were asked to stand for acknowledgement of their prodigious work on the VPN, with thanks given for their contribution.

Congratulations were offered to Sharon Martin and Brian Mellady for their amazing work managing the PSVA website, and to all the tutors and workshop demonstrators throughout the year.

Monthly Zoom sessions would not have happened without the assistance of Lyn Leine, Isabelle McKenzie, Caroline Lewallen, Norm Hansen and Ben Winspear, so gratitude was expressed for their work also.

Exhibition 2023 Update : Isabelle

Entries closed on Friday with 53 members contributing 111 paintings. Isabelle reminded entrants that D rings and hanging wire are pre-requisites for paintings to be hung in the Exhibition. There are still vacancies to be filled on the roster and volunteers are reminded that it is for 4 hours between 11 am and 3 pm and that they should bring lunch.

Roz thanked Sherbrooke Art Society for their generosity in hosting our exhibition. Andrew Mackenzie endorsed the value of this venue for drawing in passing traffic and for sales.

Members' Encouragement Awards (MEAs) Update: Caroline

Caroline outlined the current problem of picture resolution with the MEAs, partly due to the memory of the system and the resolution of the pictures submitted. Sharon working on resolving this and submission specifications will be published in the new year. October is the last month for MEAs in 2023, to allow time to collate the end of year winners in each section. Maureen Harley is taking over from Caroline to run the MEAs next year.

Roz closed the AGM meeting at 8.25pm, after expressing her appreciation to the critics,(Caroline Lewallen, Heather Peberdy and Ben Winspear), and to those who offered their paintings to be critiqued in the session after supper.