

MAYDAY HILLS ART SOCIETY

The Mayday Hills Art Society is a non-profit organisation for the benefit of artists in the region. Its objectives are to foster all branches of the visual arts and to provide innovative activities, networking and other opportunities for artists to advance their talents and for all those interested in art.

NEWSLETTER

No 9. February 2021

9A Oak Avenue, (entrance from Kurrajong Way), Mayday Hills Village. Beechworth 3747
www.maydayhillsartsociety.com

Welcome to all new members who joined the Art Society during our very successful Open Day. If you are already a member and have received this newsletter but not yet renewed your membership for this calendar year, please contact us. Forms with payment details are on the website. No need to send a new form just let us know when payment is transferred so that we can update the database. Because we had to cancel many of our planned events for 2020 we are boldly forging ahead now to hold as many as we can during 2021. This newsletter therefore offers lots of interesting activities for your involvement. Among them our new series called Café Scientifique. This follows well the intentions of our mission to be a wellspring of creative endeavour and inspiration in our community:

The Mayday Hills Art Society is a non-profit organisation located in Beechworth, Victoria. Its mission is to be a centre of excellence in the arts and sciences. Its aim is to provide innovative activities to encourage creativity, advance the talents of people in the visual and performing arts, sciences and environment and provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas to benefit the communities of northeast Victoria.



Open Day at the Mayday Hills Art Society, Sunday 6 December, 2020.



The inaugural Open Day on Sunday 6 December was a wonderful success with over 300 visitors taking the opportunity to experience our beautifully repurposed education wing of the former asylum. The celebration marked the third year since we began transforming the two storey building from a sad empty shell into a vibrant home for the visual and performing arts and sciences. The building now boasts an 80 seat theatre, 14 studios, 2 galleries, classroom, library, print room, framing facility and archive.

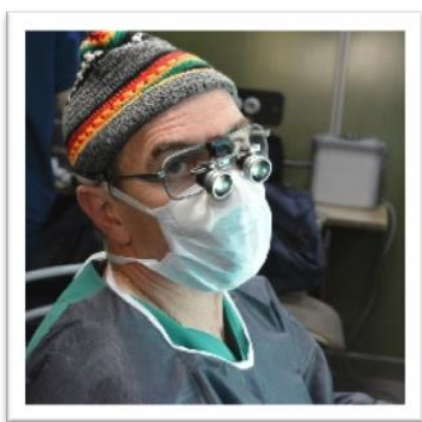
EVENTS @ MDHAS

ART TALKS

Our very popular combined happy hours and Art talks continue this year. They are held on the first Friday of each month. The Art talks will be alternating each month with Café Scientifique. Many of our members, their friends and guests, have attended this social event in previous years. We can network, enjoy a refreshment and hear from an artist or other creative professional from around the region. All that is required is a donation to the Art Society or a welcome contribution towards nibbles and wine.

Friday 5 March 5.30pm. Paediatric Surgeon Dr Paddy Dewan

Surgery is the scientific application of art, and the artful application of science



We look forward to welcoming Dr Paddy, as he is called by his patients. Paddy is a Paediatric Urologist (a plumber in his terms) and a Paediatric General Surgeon offering CARE to children and families and advice to adults affected by congenital conditions. He is also the founder of Kind Cuts for Kids, a foundation making annual trips with medical teams to developing countries and to those with little or no access to medical help. Paddy is a poet, artist and amateur wine maker with a passion for making health CARE better and safer. www.kindcutsfor kids.net. Paddy's talk, with its art and science connection, introduces the Art Society to our new Café Scientifique gatherings.

Please make a note of these dates in your diaries. You will be advised by email of any cancellation due to changes in COVID restrictions.

Friday 7 May 5.30pm. Cartoonist Adrian Osborne

The challenges and opportunities of running an arts-based business in a rural town



Adrian “OZ” Osborne is an artist, musician and public speaker who has worked as a freelance caricaturist since 1992, during which time he has drawn over 50,000 caricatures at corporate and private events around Australia. Adrian’s individual drawing style and colourful delivery has created a demand for his services. He has an ability to draw a caricature in around 2 minutes. This has established him as one of the ‘fastest felt tips’ in the business. SPLAToons became the first liquor-licensed cartoon studio in 2002, when Adrian saw an opportunity to combine two of his favourite pastimes (drawing and drinking red wine) into a unique business ‘Cartoon Wine’, which now sells his artwork on wine bottles for Australian distribution.

CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE

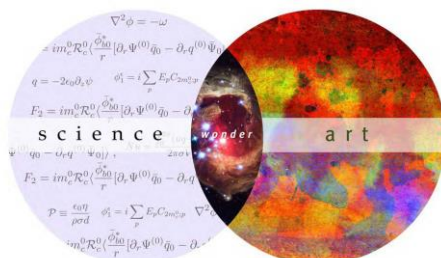
Exciting news! MDHAS is the only Australian member of Café Scientifique

As part of the Art Society’s mission to be a centre of excellence for arts and sciences, steps were taken to gain membership of the worldwide network of Cafe Scientifique (www.cafescientifique.org). The concept originated in the United Kingdom in 1998. From there, cafes gradually spread across the country and around the world. In these gatherings we will share wine, nibbles and a talk from an expert about the latest ideas in science, engineering and technology.

Friday 4 June 5.30pm. Ecologist Dr Richard Loyn

Bird surveys and what they can tell us: windows on the world

Richard is an ecologist with special interests in forests, fire, wetlands, threatened species, conservation and sustainable development. In 2013 he established a consultancy (Eco Insights), conducting strategic projects for clients in Australia and occasionally overseas (e.g. Papua New Guinea). He was awarded the D.L. Serventy Medal in 2014 and a senior doctorate (DSc) by the University of Melbourne in 2019, for a thesis on forest management and biodiversity conservation. He was appointed as an adjunct professor at La Trobe University in 2020. Richard recognises that birds and other wildlife provide a unique window on the natural world, and can help us conserve its extraordinary diversity, in partnership with local people.



Why art and science at MDHAS?

MDHAS is first and foremost an arts organisation. The idea to introduce science to our mission is to acknowledge the intellectual endeavours in science, engineering and technology within and from around our region. The aim is to stimulate and challenge the community.

“The sciences need people who can be creative and artistic in design. Art finds new ways for our world to be seen. As an example, art provides us with the means to visualise botanical specimens. It depicts the natural world through painting, photography, computer graphics, illustrations, medical scans, and much more. Together, art and science help us interpret, study and explore the world around us. The fact is, the two are in a symbiotic relationship”.

Taken from *The deep relationship between science and art: the symbiosis of knowledge and creativity*, James Stephenson, University of North Georgia, 2017.

FILMS @ THE PLAYHOUSE

In 2020 the Coronavirus played havoc with our plans for monthly movie screenings in the Upstairs Playhouse theatre. Finally (and only 11 months behind our original schedule) we are excited to announce that the first of our film nights will commence in February. See details below:



The MDHAS Film Club committee led by Rosemary Ryan and Mike Bydder, are working hard to select a range of wonderful films for the year that members will enjoy. These are planned for screening on the second Friday of each month, commencing in February. What a great way to start the year than with some laughter and a good Australian comedy –**Crackerjack**! Released in 2002, **Crackerjack** stars Mick Molloy, Bill Hunter, Frank Wilson, Monica Maughan, Samuel Johnson, Lois Ramsay, Bob Hornery, Judith Lacy, John Clarke and Denis Moore.

WHEN:

FRIDAY 12 FEBRUARY
6.00pm for 6.30pm

WHERE:

Upstairs Playhouse theatre
MDHAS, Kurrajong Way

MORE DETAIL:

Drinks available (donation)
Bring your own picnic tea

This will be a COVID compliant and members only event with a maximum of 40 people allowed. All attending will be required to sign in via the QR code and member's list. Under the Federation of Victorian Film Societies rules members can bring one guest.



'Crackerjack' is provided courtesy of the
National Film and Sound Archive of Australia.

EXHIBITIONS

COLLECTIONS FROM THE ASYLUM

The Art Society is fortunate to now have this wonderful exhibition on permanent display. It is the latest offering from Dr Jenni Munday and her co-researchers Ms Eileen Clark and Dr Alison Watts at Charles Sturt University. *Collections* showcases personal stories associated with Mayday Hills, including those of five WWI soldiers who subsequently became patients at the asylum. Some of the photographs on display were borrowed from private collections and from MDHAS and have been exhibited for the first time.



Arts of gold



The Mayday Hills Art Society showcases a diverse range of artwork from local artists. Each work includes a touch of gold. Come along to see the splendid glitter of this fabulous exhibition.

arts of
GOLD

**EXHIBITION OPEN 10AM TO 4PM
THURSDAY 1 TO TUESDAY 6 APRIL**
Memorial Hall, Ford Street, Beechworth

**ALL ARTWORK FOR SALE.
GOLD COIN DONATION.**

**MAYDAY HILLS
ART SOCIETY**

*Presented by the Mayday Hills Art Society.
Information 0412 126 219 or 0402 288 207
www.maydayhillsartsociety.com*

Planning is now underway for the **ARTS OF GOLD 2021**. This juried exhibition will be open to all artists to showcase and to sell their work and merchandise during Easter. Exhibition timetable and entry forms with key dates can be found on the website maydayhillsartsociety.com. Entry forms by **March 5**.

THEATRE

The MDHAS Players are back at the Upstairs Playhouse!



Information: contact
Wendy 0402 288 207
wendystephensarts
@gmail.com

After the successful run of BOMBSHELLS, the MDHAS Players are planning a performance of the Australian play **WHAT WE SAID** by award-winning playwright Marg Hickey. Auditions will be held in late July or early August and performance dates are set for October.

WHAT WE SAID is about the everyday conversations we have and we hear. It's about what we say and what we don't say and how words can harm and heal. Funny, heartbreaking and true – in a world full of shrill proclamations, **WHAT WE SAID** encourages us to lean in and listen.

Style: Comedy, drama

Length: 65 minutes

Cast: 4 female, 4 male. (Could be played by 8 actors or the four acts can be performed by 2 actors only). Age range: 16 to 80 years

"What we Said is a delicious rumination on contemporary relationships. It is funny and true and heartbreaking. In this play, Hickey bursts through clichés and delivers modern Australia. She is an exciting new talent." Hannie Rayson, 2019

Beechworth Theatre Company

Beechworth Theatre Company is very excited to be able to finally get back on track with our wonderful play **Trial & Error**. After a series of our own 'trials' leading to a number of cast changes (including injury, house moves, bushfires, AND COVID) we are very pleased to announce our new cast and performance dates. **Trial & Error**, a comedy in 3 acts by Kenneth Horne, will be performed at the Beechworth Memorial Hall on **14 and 15 May**, with a matinee performance at **2pm on the May 16**.

This classic British farce of the 1950s follows the trials and tribulations of newly married Andrea (Karin Michellini) and Claud (Dylan Firth) in the first few days of their honeymoon in a sunny beachside holiday home run with military efficiency by Mrs O'Connor the housekeeper (Susan Roosenboom). Even within hours of their arrival (and, importantly, BEFORE their impending wedding night), poor, long-suffering Claud finds that things are not quite what they seem with his beautiful but mysterious bride! Both Claud and the audience quickly realise that the widowed Andrea may have some rather dastardly secrets along with her equally dastardly first husband Dudley (Elroy Bos)!

The first act ends in riotous chaos as both Claud and Dudley are dispatched from the house (much to the consternation and shock of Mrs O'Connor) and as we move through acts 2 and 3, we are introduced to a range of quirky characters, including Aunt Gertrude (Sharon Kurrle), the wannabe reporter Miss Briggs (at this moment played by the Director, Janet Tweedie) and her photographer offside Ron (Roger Timewell).

Will Andrea and Claud ever get their wedding night? Will Dudley get what's coming to him? Will Miss Briggs get her scoop and a job at The Sun? Will Ron get his photo opportunity and will Mrs O'Connor ever get her house back in order? Stay tuned for booking information and the chance to find out the answer to all these questions and more!

Janet Tweedie
Beechworth Theatre Company

For quality art supplies, in our region, contact:

Border Art Supplies

Passionate about creativity

Owner/ artist Robyn White

324 Beechworth Road Wodonga 3690
Phone: 044767538

Email: team@borderartsupplies.com.au
www.borderartsupplies.com.au



DRESSING ROOM @ THE UPSTAIRS PLAYHOUSE

The dressing room for our theatre has been refurbished and is ready, complete with mirrors, lights and even a gold star on the door!

Sincere thanks to Peter Leppert for his hard work and dedication to this area and all of our building works.

POSITIONS VACANT

The Art Society is growing rapidly. We are calling on our members to help with the running of the organisation. To make it easier to be involved in some of our regular administrative tasks an office is being set up on the ground floor of the building near the gallery.

Can you please help? We promise that the work is not full-time...but it is voluntary:

- Website administrator
- Membership secretary
- Downstairs gallery co-ordinator
- Social media manager



We are in need of a desktop computer for the MDHAS office. If you are able to help with this please be in touch!

Following are the current MDHAS working committees:

Exhibition co-ordinator	Christine Cansfield-Smith
MDHAS Players	Wendy Stephens
Open Studios co-ordinators	Tania Sutton and Daren John Pope
Upstairs gallery co-ordinators	Upstairs studio artists
Portrait & life drawing co-ordinator	Judi Moncur
Café Scientifique	Peter Leppert
Art talks	Christine Cansfield-Smith and Wendy Stephens
Publicity	Wendy Stephens
MDHAS Film Club	Rosemary Ryan and Mike Bydder
Housekeeping	All studio resident artists

You are welcome to join any of the committees. If you wish to find out more about the positions vacant or the committees contact Christine as soon as possible. 0412 126 219 or bibart@bigpond.com

OUT AND ABOUT



Arts Rutherglen invite artists to showcase their work in the categories of: painting and mixed media; photography; work on paper; 3D; small artwork; youth. Enter at TrvBooking.com/BLXIC or <http://artsrutherglen.com.au/tastesofartprize/>

Mitta Valley Easter Art/Photography show 2021

@ArtExhibitionandSales · Visual arts

This bi-annual event is held on the Easter long weekend (2-5 April 2021) at the Eskdale Hall, Eskdale. The Mitta Valley offers a tranquil stay for artists and photographers who visit Dartmouth, Mitta Mitta and Eskdale. Entries for the Mitta Valley Art/Photography Show 2021 are now open.

Contact Cynthia Stuart Co-Ordinator Mitta Valley Art\ Photography
PO Box 76 Dartmouth Victoria 3701 or cynthiastuart59@gmail.com

WORKSHOPS

Introduction to botanical art **with Christine Cansfield-Smith**

Saturday 27 February and Sunday 28 February
9.30am - 4.00pm

\$160 members. \$180 non-members.

Bookings essential. Christine 0412 126 219 bibart@bigpond.com

Materials provided. Information on enrolment.



During this two-day intensive workshop for beginners, students will be guided step-by-step through the basics needed to understand and enjoy the fascinating world of botanical art. They will learn how to observe light and to be aware of tone in drawings, to sketch and compose and to understand the methods for mixing watercolours. The aim will be to draw a live plant in order to apply the techniques necessary to render a fine painting. Those involved will leave with a finished painting and the tools and techniques to continue with botanical art as a hobby.

Mayday Hills Art Society Board

President– Christine Cansfield-Smith 0412 126 219 bibart@bigpond.com, Treasurer – Bob Richards

Members – David Lawrence, Jenni Munday, Peter Leppert

