

# **HISTORY OF THE DUNSBOROUGH ART SOCIETY (INC)**

A TIMELINE OF THE FIRST 45 YEARS- Compiled by Margaret Sargent  
On the occasion of the 45th Anniversary Celebrations held at the Yallingup Hall

4th April 2015

## **HISTORY OF DUNSBOROUGH ART SOCIETY (INC)**

**(The 1st Patron was Mr Kip Seymour)**

**1969**

**MARGARET JOHNSON** Taught Art in the Dunsborough CWA Rooms.

**1970**

**MOIRA MORTON ART GROUP** was formed with Moira Morton teaching full time.

**1974 to 1975**

**DUNSBOROUGH ART SOCIETY** became incorporated.

During the period 1974 – 1976 three exhibitions were held in the park at the Dunsborough Beach Front; and also each January in the Community Hall, to provide a tourist attraction.

### 1976

**MOIRA MORTON'S GROUP** relocated to the Dunsborough Community Hall, painting there for several years.

Later the Art Group gained their first Patron, **MR KIP SEYMOUR**.

### 1984 to 1986

Popular Teacher, **HAZEL SPENCER** began “**OIL PAINTING FOR BEGINNERS**”.

**TAFE TEACHERS** – Classes in drawings and pastels.

**Connie Brooks** – Watercolour Teacher.

### 1987

**Graeme Quartly** – Teaching Oils and Pastels

**1989**

**The Dunsborough Community Hall** continued to be used for art

**UNTIL:-**

**1991**

**HIGH HOPES FOR AN ART BUILDING!**

**The Catholic “Star of the Sea” Church** on Gifford Road was purchased by the Dunsborough Art Society. (The road closed while it was moved to the corner of Gifford Road and Gibney Sreet, butting onto the back of the Community Hall).

**Officially Opened by Hon. Barry MacKinnon, MLA**

**On Saturday, 27th April, 1991**

This occasion was organised by the **Dunsborough Progress Association**, whose President, **John Edwards**, in conjunction with the **Dunsborough Art Society (Inc)**, was very closely involved with the success of the project. Headlines appeared in local papers celebrating the occasion.

**GLORIA SMITH** painted 2 lovely watercolours of the Building, photos of which are in the Society's Record Book.

**1991**

**Artist – ALEX WISNIEWSKI** Gave the first Workshop in the new building. This was reported in the Busselton Times, 15/8/1991.

**JAN. 1992**

**MUCH EXCITEMENT!** The very first exhibition, opened by **GRAEME QUARTLY** in the new rooms causes a lot of interest, with a total of 35 Painting sold.

**GRAEME & VAL QUARTLY** left the district. Farewelled by members with a special afternoon tea.

**TUTOR WENDY HOLMES:** Popular artist and teacher from Balingup

**1993**

**WENDY HOLMES** married artist, **JOHN PASCO**, in May 1992. Travelling each Wednesday to Dunsborough, she inspired members to look at new ways, such as painting “plein air”. They later joined her on a 5 day Safari to Wave Rock and further East with **ROB BREEDEN**, always an intrepid explorer.

**EXHIBITION AT BUSSELTON OLD COURT HOUSE GALLERY**

**ENTITLED “SCAPES AND ESCAPES”.**

**1994**

**TUTORS REX & JOAN KNIGHT** – Art Classes in Oil or Watercolour.

**1998**

**EASTER FAIRS** Art Society members were able to display and sell mounted, framed or un-framed paintings. To add further interest, member **MARGARET SARGANT** drew “on the spot” Portraits in soft pastel, both at the Fair and at the **DAS** Exhibitions in the Town.

**1999**

**BALINGUP ART CAMP** Members stayed in the Old Post Office which, although quite comfy, did have resident mice!!

**2000**

**GALLERY HANNA** The opening of this Gallery provided a welcome space for members to hang paintings. A featured artist was able to hang all of his/her work on one wall. Sadly the gallery is no longer there.

## 2000

While working as Secretary of the Art Society, **MARGARET SARGANT** began issuing monthly newsletters to Members, Past Members and Patrons to keep them informed of the Art Society's coming events and activities and has kept it going – but now only bi-monthly.

## 2001

**TUTOR, WENDY HOLMES** A Painting Excursion to Augusta was greatly enhanced by Wendy's plein air demonstration.

**NANGA BUSH CAMP – PAINTING EXCURSION** Rainy, but lovely

**MONET EXHIBITION – PERTH ART GALLERY & “LIVE WEB” GALLERY**

Members were driven there and back by Crys Breeden's son, Alan.

## 2002

**Member. FLORENCE CLEMENTS**

After moving to Dunsborough and joining the Art Society, Florence became a Mentor for those members who required help on the days that she attended the Hall. A true artist herself, she generously passed on her knowledge and expertise and still does to this day.

## 2003

**President, JOAN NETHERY** Passed Away.

## 2004

### **WORKSHOP TO “YARRABAH” – NEAR MUNDIJONG**

This included a visit to Shirley Fisher’s Studio/Gallery,

Waterways Studio and Serpentine Dam.

**LOTTERY WEST** – Granted \$10 000 for the building of the storeroom extension.

**PHYLLIS HILL** organised the submission.

## 2005

**Patron, JOHN EDWARDS** The Dunsborough Art Society lost one of its greatest supporters with his death on 5th April, 2005. Always a community minded citizen, John worked hard in many ways to improve the town for its residents. He has been sadly missed. His widow, **BETTY EDWARDS (PATRON)** continues to support the Art Society.

## 2005

**Member, GLORIA SMITH**, (watercolourist supreme) Designed, and with the help of member **PHYLLIS HILL and others**, painted a colourful mural on the wall outside the Hall, representing our beautiful bay. Always an attractive landmark for the Society, a photo taken of her work soon became a fitting logo for the Newsletter,

## **TUTOR, BRIAN AYLWARD WORKSHOP**

**BUNBURY PORT AUTHORITY – GRANTED \$5000** after President, **Phyllis Hill** had organised the submission. Improvements made possible by the grant were, sanding and sealing the jarrah floor, air conditioning, hot water system and an ergonomically designed chair for disabled members.

## 2006

### **PROJECT INVOLVING DUNSBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN**

A successful submission by **Phyllis Hill** to **HEALTHWAYS**, after collaboration with **Robin Bigwood** from the **Dunsborough Primary School**, resulted in a \$5000 Grant. Phyllis and **Steve Vigers** liaised with Robin and the school community to create the following projects: cement pavers, murals, silk screen banners, an exhibition of children's art and an impressive school entrance.



**2008**

**MEMBER, PHYLLIS HILL'S WORKSHOP – MONOPRINTING ON GLASS**

A lovely new experience for those involved.

**MEMBER, PETA FRANKLAND'S FLORAL WORKSHOP**

**2008/9**

**LOTTERY WEST – GRANT \$5000 organised by PHYLLIS HILL**

This grant provided the society with 15 stackable chairs, 6 stools, resealing of the floorboards, an Honour Board, hanging system extras and 5 floor easels.

**2009**

**SOLO EXHIBITONS FOR MEMBERS IN THE FOYER OF OUR HALL BEGAN:**

Here members were able to show all their work together, so that each painting complemented the other. The first of these solo shows was a Retrospective Exhibition showing drawing books, trip books, and absolutely everything pertaining to a member's artistic journey.

## 2009

**DUMBLEYUNG ART CAMP** – Members stayed at the Dumbleyung Hotel, where they were royally treated with comfy beds, lovely food, and even models to draw. They drew or painted the interior and outside of the hotel, the lovely lake, the town and countryside.

## 2010

### **CRITIQUE DAY WITH WELL KNOWN ARTISTS TO ASSESS THE WORK**

Dunsborough Art Society combines with Augusta, Capel, Busselton, Cowaramup and Dalyellup each year. 2010 was Dunsborough's turn.

**EXHIBITION AT FLAMETREE WINERY** This was an exercise not tried before.

Pleasant and interesting to have a new venue, but a much more suitable exhibition space has been the old Yallingup Hall.

## 2011

**PAUL RIGBY'S GALLERY** A day trip to Margaret River. Many Cartoons from the "Daily News" displayed in small cottages on the property.

## **ROTTNEST ISLAND ART CAMP (Efficiently organised by Florence and Bob Clements)**

8 Members braved the bucking ferry and took themselves and their art equipment to stay in two very comfy cottages near the Lighthouse.

### **2012**

**Member, Caryll Whitney** – Passed away 18th January, 2012. Caryll, who lived much of her Life in England, loved to paint horses, dogs, and English scenes (country lanes and houses). She was member of the Dunsborough Art Society for many years.

**ROB (BUNYIP) BREEDEN** – Passed away 7th March 2012.

Loved Husband of our Member, **Crystal Breeden**, Rob was a great character, talented bush man, humorous and well liked.

### **2013**

**HARWOODS** Hall renovations badly inconvenienced members, bringing meetings to a Halt. Our saviour was Norma of Harwoods, who invited members to paint there each Monday. Plenty of inspiration in the dear old cottages, ducks, trees and artefacts etc.

**2014**

**LUCY & BARRY McCANN'S WORKSHOP** A good number of members signed up for this – enjoyed by all.

**!!! DUNSBOROUGH ART SOCIETY IS ON THE WEB!!!**

**We are indebted to John Hill (husband of member, Phyllis Hill)**

who has worked very hard to put members' paintings onto **our own web site**.

**2015**

**LAUREL AHSLEY** Once again Laurel has been nominated President to this very progressive Art Society, having served many times over the years in this very demanding position. She is well respected by all.

**2015**

**Renovations once more!!!** Months of not knowing what was going on from one week to the next, but Royally saved by **PHYLLIS AND JOHN HILL** who provided a lovely

covered space outside their home for Meetings and Workshops, whilst the Art Hall was “out of bounds”. Last news received in March 2015 is that the Hall is now open to members, just in time to prepare for the **MRROS (Margaret River Region Open Studios) Exhibition** at the end of April, and **The Easter Exhibition at Yallingup Hall**

## **DUNSBOROUGH ART SOCIETY (INC)**

### **THREE “LIFE MEMBERSHIPS’ AWARDED IN MARCH 2015**

#### **ELAINE DAVEY – HER STORY|**

Elaine Davey started painting in the 1960’s, doing an art course at T.A.F.E. in Whyalla, South Australia, but it wasn’t until they moved to Port Lincoln in 1974 that she took up art seriously. She joined the Port Lincoln Art Group which was affiliated with T.A.F.E. The group used all their facilities and had many weekend workshops with some of the top artists from Adelaide.

When Elaine moved to Western Australia in 1994, she became a foundation member of the Rockingham Watercolour Society.

For medical reasons she spent 2 or 3 years in Perth, bought a villa at Bethany Waters and while there formed the Bethany Waters Art Group, with a teacher coming from the Rockingham Watercolour Society each week.

On her return to Dunsborough/Busselton, Elaine went to live at Ray Village Lodge and while there formed the present day “Ray Village Art Group”, which is very fortunate to have three volunteer teachers from D.A.S., who come every week.

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#### **E. JEAN SUNDERLAND – A BRIEF SUMMARY**

Jean Sunderland has been a loyal member of the Dunsborough Art Society for twenty years. She does beautiful watercolours, but due to recent bad health is now unable to attend. She is much missed by her friends.

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#### **PHYLLIS HILL – A BRIEF SUMMARY**

Phyllis has been a member of the Dunsborough Art Society for thirteen years, during which, as President, she worked very hard to secure grants from the Bunbury Port Authority and from Lotterywest. She has shared her expertise in workshops and recently opened up her home to members for meetings and workshops when the Hall was closed for renovations. Phyllis travels with her husband John for about 6 months each year, during which she sees a great variety of things to paint or draw, so always arrives back in Dunsborough with a large portfolio of work.