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Dear Members,

Get comfortable, something to drink and start reading because a lot is happening. What a start to the year - fantastic highs and devastating lows all coming together. Lisa Wang shared her painting of Bob Wade doing what he loved best. What a gem Lisa. The death of dearly loved Bob Wade our long serving Patron is a huge blow although we knew he could not live forever you always hope for a little more. It is a shame he will miss the 50th Celebration to come in a few months. It is truly a time for changing of the guard.

It has been so sad to lose three long serving members since we last met in November. Reg Cox, Harold Farey President in 1989 - 1991, and now Robert Wade. It is quite poignant that this is happening at a time we are exploring our past and learning about their input to our early existence. It is also a reminder of the wealth

of knowledge these older members had with regard to their painting skills, the knowledge of the society and its heritage. It also reminds us to listen to the stories of our older members while they can still tell us as a direct link. It is so easy to get caught up in the daily bustle of life.

The Exhibition is rolling along, or should I say rolling in. At the meeting we will collect the final pieces that will be in the show. I am so proud of the way you have all supported this endeavour by sending in work for consideration. It has been heartening to receive your support and so many entries.

The flip side to the successes are some who missed out and it was interesting that while I was researching Bob Wade I found a quote which seemed relevant at this moment. He said: *"I submitted to the RI annually for ten years, and each year some were accepted, but one year not a single one got into the show. Well, do I feel embarrassed to disclose my rejections to you? Not at all! Every painting which I have submitted to all of these distinguished Societies has been my best possible work at the time, and if that were not good enough then I must try harder. Remember this... Constant acceptance breeds complacency and mediocrity, rejection breeds determination and ultimate success. Don't hold grudges against the Judges. Determine to paint something better to submit next year. So, if at first you don't succeed, then you can count yourself as pretty normal! Rejection helps to keep us humble."* I have attached the whole article he wrote in 2011 for "The Painters Keys" **Rejection breeds Determination.** [Click here for the link](#)

We look forward to seeing you, your paintings for the show and Yesim Gozukara who will be demonstrating for us after the AGM on 26th February. You will be able to thank some of the retiring committee for their efforts on your behalf as you meet some new committee members. I hope we get to meet, in person, some of our new members because we have had an influx of new members since Christmas.

Ev Hales President

It has to be Bob Wade quotes this month and there are so many good ones to choose from:

"My profession is dreaming. Could anyone be luckier?" Robert Wade

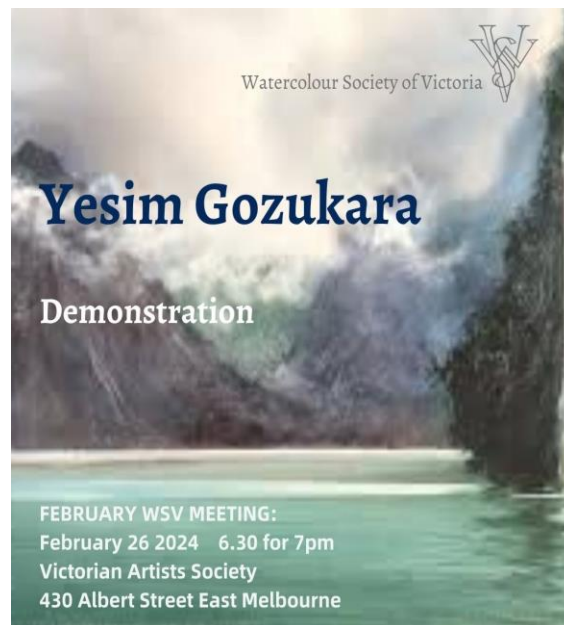
"It is not the subject that makes a painting work, It is the interpretation of the subject by the artist that lifts it out of the ordinary." (Robert Wade)

2. AGM and Painting Delivery February 26th

Please arrive at 6.30 pm or a little earlier if you are delivering your painting. Brenda and Rob will be there to receive your paintings for the Luminous Show. Louise will have a visa device for you to pay entry fee or membership subs by credit or debit card on the night.

It is going to be a busy night so if you can bring your work flat, supported and protected that will make the process easier. Make sure you have written all details on the back of the work - Name title, price, address email. Thanks for making it a simple transfer.

PS: Someone has deposited an exhibition fee with no name attached. Check your Bank transfers and if this is you take a photo on your phone with the transaction time and date so we can know who you are.



3. Yesim Gozukara

Yesim's work is unique and her interest in and control of granulation and textural qualities when working with watercolour is masterly.

Watch Yesim as she weaves her magic before our eyes in this demonstration which will be presented after the AGM meeting.

Visit her [Website](#)



4. Bob Wade Retrospective Exhibition and Celebration of Life

Bob had planned to hold an exhibition of work during our exhibition in May but this has been brought forward and you can visit VAS Cato Gallery to see his work.

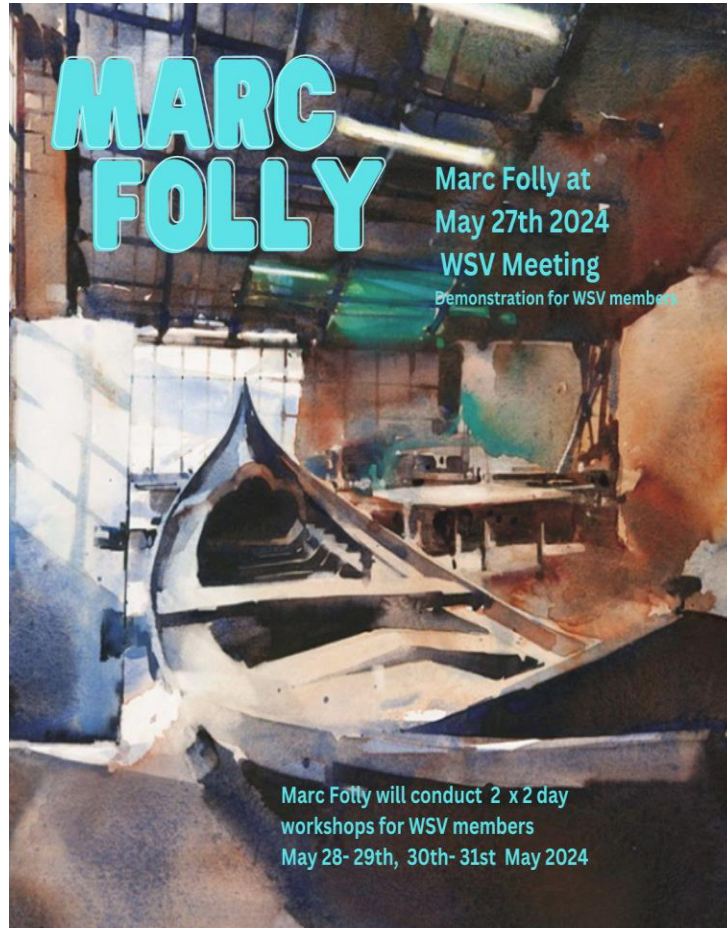
Dates: 21st February - 5th March

More importantly you can join **A Celebration of Life** that is being held at Victorian Artists Society **Tuesday 27th of February 6.00pm for a 6.30 pm start.**

This will be live streamed and a link will be available closer to the time on Facebook.

To assist with Catering please register your attendance at rawade2024@gmail.com

In lieu of flowers please donate to Bob's favourite charity Very Special Kids and the Cancer Council of Victoria.



5. Marc Folly Workshops May 2024

We are all excited about Marc's visit to coincide with our Exhibition. The weeks are flying and we are about to open bookings for the two **Two Day workshops** he will give. Bookings open **1st March**.

The workshops will be held:

on: **May 28th and 29th and May 30th and 31st**

at: The Jack Dyer Community Room
Corner Gleadell and Highett Streets, Richmond

Cost: **\$500**

Limited to WSV members

MARCH 1st Booking open - you can email Jane and your booking will be recorded.
No early bookings will be accepted and it will be strictly on a first come first serve basis.

[BOOK HERE on MARCH 1st](#)

Email your desire to participate.

After you receive a confirmation from Jane of your place in the class payment in full will be required and no refunds will be paid unless the place is refilled.

This is a really special opportunity - Marc Folly's first trip to Australia. I know these particular workshops will be in high demand. We have already had enquiries from the general public about these events - but you are our first responsibility and bookings are restricted to members.

Join us

It's time to paint outdoors
with friends

Phillip Island

April 22 - 24
Mon to Wed

Come for a day or stay

Recharge the batteries Get the brushes moving.

Register interest to find out more
admin@watercoloursocietyofvictoria.com.au

6. Phillip Island 22 - 24 April Paint Away

We have been promising a paint away for some time and finally there is a little space in the perfect month for en plein air - April. Mark the date in your diary **22 - 24 April**. There is a small window of opportunity - the exhibition paintings will be at the framers, the catalogue will be at the printers, the advertising is out there and we will have a moment to breathe before the main act. So we plan to pack up the paints and head to Phillip Island.

We will do the usual - 2 nights of meals at the RSL or other local venue to get together and chat. During the day we will arrange a meeting point and people can come there to paint or paint where ever they like and just generally have a great time catching up and wetting the brushes for three days.

All you need do is make your way to the island and if you are planning to stay, arrange somewhere to sleep.

If you register your interest we will put you on the email list and keep you up to date with what is happening with specific details closer to the time.

For those who have not been to one of these events, it is a low key chance to make real connections. The only defined details are if you want to join us for the evening meals because of course reservations need to be made for a group.

We will paint one day around the Cowes end of the island and then according to the weather low tide at Rhyll, red rocks, boats, a vineyard or two or ??? ... there is no shortage of inspiration. We also have a number of members who live on the island and we look forward to catching up with them.

So put that date in the diary **Phillip Island 22 - 24th April .**

Register interest [**HERE**](#)

7. Watermark

Deadline 22 March for the April - June Edition

We all love receiving the magazine.

Brenda is looking for some regular or random reporters to provide input. You will all have read Colin Peel's ***Getting to Know You*** segments for a numbers of years now and learnt a lot about many of our members. He is putting the pen away and so we need someone to take on this project and would like to follow this by writing four profiles for the year. Our magazine is only as rich as the inputs the editor receives. Have you read a great book, been to a wonderful exhibition, discovered a new product? Share your discoveries with others by photographing or writing about it.

I want to write for you

Invitation to an art exhibition

THREE ASPECTS



Cecilia Morris Wendy Wheeler Amanda Wyness

OPENING
6 - 8pm Friday 23 February 2024

MALVERN ARTISTS SOCIETY GALLERIES
1297 High Street, Malvern VIC

OPENED BY
Renowned artist Maxine Wade

GALLERY HOURS
10am - 8pm Friday 23
10am - 4pm Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 February

MUSIC BY
Respected violinist Tahnaya Wynne

DOOR PRIZE PAINTING



AN EXHIBITION BY
THREE ARTISTS CONNECTED
BY THE WATERS
OF THE YARRA RIVER

Gallery 7SIX 5
765 Eltham - Yarra Glen Road
Watsons Creek
www.gallery7six5.com.au



You are invited to join us for our opening : Saturday February 24 : 6pm-8pm

Exhibition Friday:Saturday:Sunday February 23 - March 12 : 10am-4pm



AN EXHIBITION BY
THREE ARTISTS CONNECTED
BY THE WATERS
OF THE YARRA RIVER

Jess, Esther and Wayne are three artists
living and practicing art along the Yarra
River in Nilumbik. Close neighbours as
the water flows, all three are inspired
by the natural world. Fortunate to live in
the bush they have a direct connection
to nature which feeds their creative
practice. Flow not only refers to the
river that flows past all three art
studios but also to the creative flow
that the artists experience. Creative
flow is a psychosomatic or meditative
state where the maker is fully immersed
in a task and present in the moment.
Where ideas, concepts, memories and
emotions are intertwined during the
creation of an art work.



Gallery 7SIX 5
765 Eltham - Yarra Glen Road
Watsons Creek
www.gallery7six5.com.au

8. Members Events Lots of things are happening with our members especially our Withers Grant recipients.

Jess Jarvie and Amanda Wyness, two of our Withers Grant recipients, are joining others and getting their work out there for all to see.

Amanda Wyness is displaying with Wendy Wheeler and Cecelia Morris (all WSV members). Their **Three Aspects** show opening is **Friday 23rd Feb until Sunday 25th** February. Do stop by the **Malvern Artist Society** and see what they are up to.

Jess Jarvie is displaying with two other local artists at **Gallery 7SIX5** at 765 Eltham - Yarra Glen Rd, Watsons Creek. This exhibition is open **Feb 24th - March 12th** (Gallery hours Fri, sat and Sunday 10 - 4 pm).

Clive Sinclair is running a workshop on Feb 25th at the Peninsular Art Society and there is a spot left. Just \$90 will have you finding out some of Clive's intuitive advice. Contact him [HERE](#) to register your interest.

Vivi Palegeorge and **Craig Penny** are exhibiting at Advantage Gallery in Highett **"Beyond Borders"** featuring works from their travels.
28th Feb - 20th March

“Collaboration” is another not to miss exhibition. **Alison Fincher and Pat McKenzie** will be on display March 22 - April 1st at Barwon Heads Arts and Community Hub.



'COLLABORATION'

An exhibition of
paintings by
**Alison Fincher and
Pat McKenzie**

OPENING TIMES:
Friday March 22 – Monday April 1
10 am – 4pm each day, including Easter

Barwon Heads Arts and Community Hub
5 Clifford Parade Barwon Heads

9. Wednesday Wanderers Is back. 10 - 11 am on Zoom.

The next sessions are 21st Feb, 6th March and 20th March'

For this new members, this is a zoom paint in session, where members meet on line every second Wednesday to paint a set subject. This is unknown before arriving. After painting for 40 minutes results are shared and you get to meet a number of members to challenge and inspire you.



9. David Freedman's latest book "Australia's Birds in Watercolour" is almost on the shelves of a bookstore near you.

The book is being distributed to book shops in March by Hardie Grant book publishers. RRP \$99.

David has a limited number at a special price for WSV members **contact him** If you like birds you will love the book It took an immense amount of work. 270 illustrations and 304 pages. It is 30 x 27 cm and weighs 2 kg.

Cannot wait to see this edition. Congratulations, David on a mammoth task. PS I believe the next volume will be furry rather than feathered friends. More about that later.

Unseen for 30 years – 80 + superb watercolours



A collection of over 80 superb paintings, unseen for 30 years has been "discovered" in Paul Crompton's studio.

Art connoisseurs who have viewed the paintings are amazed at the quality, detail and use of light.

His artworks are an eclectic mix of places, scenes, people and events. Also included is a complete collection of paintings of Ansett aircraft and helicopters flown in their first 60 years of operation - some 40 paintings. A unique and original collection.

Paul's art background is impeccable. His studies in Fine Arts, Architecture Design and Drafting, enabled him to pursue a uniquely creative and 'hands on' career, further recognised with Membership of the Royal Watercolour Society (the UK's prestigious "Old Watercolour Society," among whose alumni is JMW Turner). In Australia, he also held four Watercolour Society Memberships.

Paul's artwork is represented worldwide with over 650 pieces sold and housed in public and private collections. What an incredible achievement!

Inexplicably, Paul finally stopped painting 15 years ago. Now, his unseen artworks have been rediscovered!



Paul has been a Bayside resident for over 50 years and is a quiet achiever who has made a significant contribution to our community. For example, he designed and made "surprise boxes" for dementia patients. He has made honour boards for Black Rock House and videos for Beaumaris Probus. He has been active with Blaze Aid helping repair fences for fire victims. For the RSL he donated paintings of Vietnam war action which were displayed at the Shrine. He is a Committee Member of Beaumaris Men's Shed. There is much more but no space here!

Paul's artwork will be sold at his "Retrospective" to be held at Brighton Town Hall between 15th - 17th March 2024. Paul wishes to donate some of the proceeds to charity. NHW 3193 is sponsoring this event.

10. Paul Crompton Retrospective yet another treat 15th - 17th March at Brighton Town Hall

Paul is a past WSV member who was on committee in 1994. Someone alerted me to this special event which is a must for any collector.

Art connoisseurs who have viewed the paintings are amazed at the quality, detail and use of light. See cutting above.



Watercolour Society of Victoria

Inc No. A0045768L

PO Box 415, Ashburton, 3147

Email: admin@watercoloursocietyofvictoria.com.au

Website: www.watercoloursocietyofvictoria.com.au

The John Withers Emerging Watercolour Artists Program

The Watercolour Society of Victoria (WSV)
is seeking applications from *emerging watercolour artists*.

This program supports and mentors emerging artists.

With the financial support of John Withers, grandson of renowned artist Walter Withers, WSV has established a program to support young emerging artists who have recently started exploring watercolour and are passionate about

11. The John Withers Emerging Artists Program

We are seeking several more artists to join this initiative. Contact Louise for more details. Entries close April .

[tell me more please](#)



12. Blue Lotus Farm - We had a great paint out day again at this magical venue.

If you loved what you did send in an image and we will post them on the website in the Members Gallery. Actually if you have any recent masterpieces you want to share.

Did you see the WSV You Tube segment where It Hao Pheh shared his favourite outdoor painting setup with members who were at the Lotus Garden. All kinds of tips are shared when painting together.

[Link Here](#)

13. Melbourne City Council celebration for 2024 Arts Grant recipients. We were invited to this event to meet other successful grant recipients and what a buzz. The city has doubled its arts budget in their attempts to reinvigorate the city and there are lots of amazing things planned - and we are among the activities with our exhibition in May. We are talking about the WSV to the wider community hoping to connect with collectors and interested groups. Janit looked right at home on the "Beatles Balcony" (as it is affectionately known) at the Town Hall overlooking Swanston Street.

I am sure I have forgotten something as there have been so many things happening. If I have missed 'you' I am sorry. It is best to email notifications so that there is less chance of slipping through the cracks.

I have to finish with another quote from Bob Wade

*Never sell a work of which you are not proud to say,
'I painted that!'
If you sell a 'dog' it will always come back to bite you. (Robert Wade)*

Looking forward to seeing you all at the AGM.

Ev Hales



Our mailing address is:

admin@watercoloursocietyofvictoria.com.au

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