

Volume:30 Issue:5 Sept/Oct 2026

Newsletter



Established: 1997
ABN: 32788178963

Liverpool Art Society Inc.

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President: Anne Picalovski 0414 244 839



"Redeemed" – Gail O'Connell's winning work from the Friends of Campbelltown exhibition.

What's On at LAS in Sept-Oct.

Sat 19 Sept. - Annual Exhibition opens. Liverpool Powerhouse.

Sat 26 Sept. - Exhibition Launch & Awards. 2 - 4pm Powerhouse.

Sun 25 Oct. - Collection of artworks. 10am - 3pm. Powerhouse.

Sun 22 Nov. - Christmas Party. Cabra Leagues Club. 11am.

Wed 16 Dec. - Last day for Watercolour Group 2026.

Thurs 17 Dec. - Last day for Mixed Media Group 2026

Life Drawing Dates:- These are subject to change by Liverpool Powerhouse. Peter informs class members of the dates by text & sends a reminder text for each class. Please check your mobiles for the dates & any changes before attending a class. New members can TEXT Peter on 0487 198 714 for information.

from the President ...



Hello L.A.S. members,

The year is certainly going fast; our 28th Annual Exhibition is only a month away!!! All submissions have been checked, and it looks like we have another record number of artists exhibiting this year, with just over 285 adults and children. I am looking forward to a great day at the Launch on September 26th. I see many members have been busy entering all sorts of competitions in the region and beyond. This willingness to showcase your work is admirable.

Although I would have loved to sell a few works at the Merrylands Exhibition, I am grateful to all who took part and trusted me with your works to exhibit something special. I'm looking into securing another art space for next year. 🙌

Our ARTy pARTy in June went off with a bang, and we thoroughly enjoyed the day. Thank you to Jennifer Phillips for classily decorating the venue at Cabramatta Rugby Club.

Our AGM is all done and dusted!! I'm excited to be your L.A.S President again. Vice President/Public Officer Rodney Harris is also back. Treasurer is Jennifer Phillips. Welcome Victoria Taylor, Lynda Hanell and Maria Brockman, our 3 new committee members. Along with Di Hallinan, Peter Thompson, and Selma Fida, I'm sure we will make an even better team. Thank you to Trish Thrift, who stepped down from the committee. I know you will give us your wisdom from the background.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our 28th LAS Annual Exhibition Launch on the 26th of September!!!!

P.S Jennifer and I enjoyed drop-off day immensely; it's lovely to put names to faces. Mind you, I think I know everyone now, and your words of encouragement are motivating

With kind regards

Anne Picalovski. **President of Liverpool Art Society Inc.**

Front Cover Artwork

"Redeemed" – a ceramic piece by **Gail O'Connell** which won the Friends of Campbelltown Annual Exhibition. Gail said, *"the coil weaving on the front of this vase was done by adding small holes around the larger one before firing, then the seagrass was woven in."* Wow! So innovative, Gail. Congratulations, a well-deserved win.

ARTy pARTy

The Challenge competition was to produce a painting or ceramic influenced by a given image.



Ceramic Competition Winners.

First – Gail O’Connell. (Left).

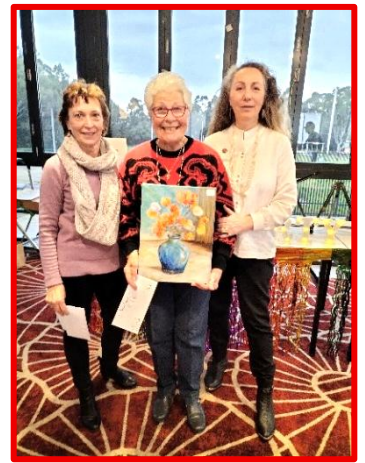
Second – Rod Harris. (Right).



Painting Competition Winners.

First – Peter Thompson. (Left).

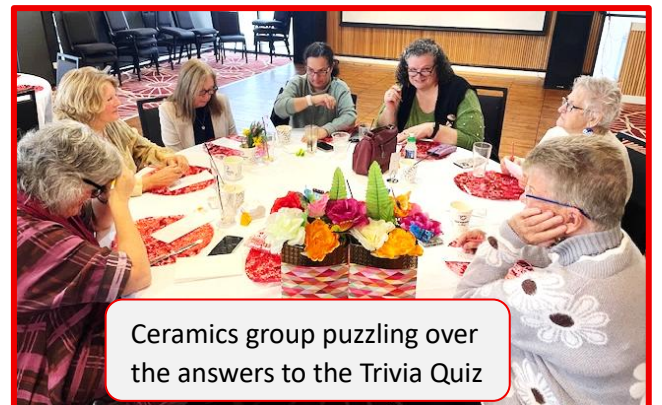
Second – Laura Dogao. (Right).



Lucky Door Prize.
John Tregoning.



Trivia Winner.
Di Hallinan.



Ceramics group puzzling over the answers to the Trivia Quiz



THE FARMER
ALLOWS WALKERS
TO CROSS THE
FIELD FOR FREE,
BUT THE BULL CHARGES



Trivia Quizmaster
Jenny Phillips

Artist in the Spotlight – September/October



Charishma Kaliyanda M.P. supports LAS artists by providing a wall in the foyer of her Liverpool Electoral office for displays of member works.

The current exhibition, “Mì, Myself & I” is a playful self-portrait series by artist **Maggie Tra**. The series focuses on growing up in Cabramatta and eating her favourite dish Mì (noodles).

Exploring identity, psychological self-examination and social status declaration, this colourful visual diary shares her inner child and emotional survival.

For the opportunity to display your works, contact Anne Picalovski at contactus@liverpoolartsociety.com Visit Charishma’s office at the corner of Moore & Northumberland Streets, Liverpool, to view the works.

AGM Elections

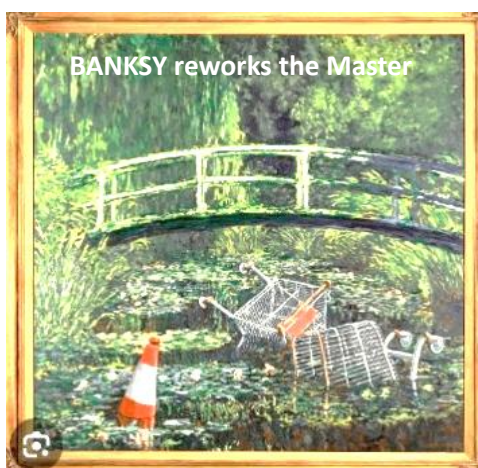
Watch out LAS – the Force is with you!

Many Thanks to those who volunteered to assist with the management of LAS for 2026/2027. It is only with their support that LAS is able to provide members with so many opportunities for creativity, education & promotion.

President – Anne Picalovski; Vice President – Rod Harris; Treasurer – Jenny Phillips; Ordinary Committee – Maria Brockman, Selma Fida, Di Hallinan, Lynda Hanell, Victoria Taylor & Peter Thompson.

There were no volunteers for the position of SECRETARY.

The President’s Report 2025/2026 is included as an addendum to this newsletter.



ATTENTION

LAS facebook profile and LAS Instagram account have changed. Please unfollow the old ones and follow-
fb: Liverpool Art Society NSW - 2026
inst: @las_nsw2026

VALE Sue Zimmermann

Sad news of the passing of Sue Zimmermann. Sue, a member of LAS for over 20 years, was actively involved in meetings, demonstrations & weekly groups in previous years. She generously donated an extensive collection of art books to the LAS library. Sincere condolences to Sue’s family and friends.

Celebrity LAS Artists



Gail O'Connell, (left), (supported by Kerrie Walsh & Lesley Richman), with her Winners Award at the Friends of Campbelltown Annual Exhibition.

Shown right, the back of her vase which she explains has "A pattern of holes on the back of the vase allowed linen thread and beads to form a colourful pattern, linen thread has been added to the ceramic gumnuts.



John Wang (left) at the Launch of his Scholarship Exhibition. Congratulations, John, on your skilful & engaging use of colour, light & shade.

"Captured with broad impressionistic brush strokes, a selection of Wang's oil works, including his 2021 and 2025 renderings of Hogben Park, are displayed as part of the *Scholarship Showcase 2026* at the Liverpool Powerhouse. Wang's *Observations in Oil*, invites viewers to partake in the artist's unique creative journey, spanning over six decades and two continents. Each work provides a window into a particular time and place, capturing the hidden beauty of the everyday, brought to life through Wang's masterful application of light and shadow.

The same treatment is afforded to a series of large-scale works featuring floral and plant-life subjects. While the *Bird of Paradise Series* celebrates the untamed, the *Lotus Series* shows a more subdued appreciation of nature.

These are not just observations, but conversations - between the observer and the observed, the artist and his world - at any fleeting moment." - [The Artist's Digest](#) - Sydney-based art enthusiast sharing stories about the Australian art scene. – by **Laura Rullo (LAS)**.



Melvy Connell won First Prize at the Capture Fairfield Art Competition. Melvy said that the ceremony was held at Fairfield Council and that it was wonderful to have her children share the special event with her.



Congratulations to **Linda Ferlazzo** who sold an artwork at the Friends exhibition.

Congratulations to the following LAS members who were selected for this year's **Fishers Ghost Art Prize** – Hedar Abadi, Kelcie Bryant-Duguid, Melvy Connell, Rafiqur Khan, Charlie Wells, Paul Brocklebank, Marwar Chamand, Bob Gurney, Patricia Johnston & Anthony Polistena.

Congratulations to the following LAS members who won prizes at the **Fairfield City Art Society** exhibition – Rafiqur Khan (Best in Show & FIRST Works on Paper); Peter Thompson (FIRST Traditional); Lorraine Maggs (FIRST Contemporary + a Com); Cheryl Tate (2nd Cont); Helga Kelly (2nd W on P + Peter Markwick Memorial); Dorothy Sullivan (3rd W on P); Janette Maher (3rd Cont); + certificates to Atif Alqas Ishak; Sam Bianca; Lesley Richman; Levi Richman & Calvin Richman

LAS Exhibition at Heritage House, Merrylands RSL

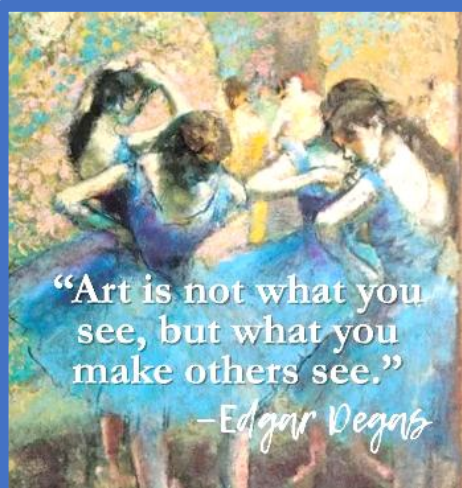


Visitors to the exhibition were greeted by the new LAS banner (see left), organised by Rod and Anne.

Inside the gallery, two eye-catching works by Maria Brockman were displayed on easels (see right).

Members had fun socializing at the Launch (see below).

The exhibition shone a light on the wide ranging creative talents of LAS members. Many thanks to Anne & the organisers for their vision in creating this opportunity for LAS members & the community.



25th
Dobell
Drawing
Prize

APPLY NOW

Entries close 5pm
Monday
14 September



25th Dobell Drawing Prize winning work
Brenna Lee, 2004, pencil on paper, 100cm x 100cm
and Flinders Street Gallery, Sydney 10 the art of

20
NAS
Gallery

**NATIONAL
ART
SCHOOL**

Science shows that making art can actually improve your mental health, even if you're not an artist.



You don't need talent to benefit from art. The healing comes from creating, not from being perfect.



August Demonstration with Elizabeth Ellen.

Friday 20 August at Liverpool Powerhouse.

Over 20 members attended the demonstration, enjoying some light refreshments beforehand, provided by Bellbird Dining & Bar. Yum.

Elizabeth created a striking image of President, Anne Picalovski.

Some members comments are listed below.



"If you attended last Friday's live portrait demonstration with Elizabeth Ellen you would have experienced an exciting way of how to paint a portrait. Elizabeth took her audience on a creative and learned journey on how painting with mediums, glazes, a limited colour palette and tools can create a vibrant art work as she layers brush strokes and over textured pattern markings to detail parts of her portrait of Anne.

Ellen's way of demonstrating her techniques gives even the unexperienced beginner confidence to start painting using her care free style and methods." – Maria Brockman.

"On Friday 20th August, artist, Elizabeth Ellen, demonstrated her technique for painting a portrait of our very own Madame President.

Using an American brand of acrylic, satin glaze medium and a bespoke canvas board, all from Sydney Art Store, Elizabeth explained that the image she began with had been developed from a charcoal sketch on the canvas treated with tinted gesso (Prussian Blue, Raw Umber and White) and developed over three days using many layers, or glazes, which are applied and then parts wiped away to achieve a soft graduated image with no edges. Elizabeth explained that to slow the drying of the acrylic paint she wets the back of the canvas and uses the satin medium mixed in with each layer from a 'wet pallet'. She continued adding layers and wiping, using the same dirty brush before moving to adding more detail.

At the end of the two hours, she explained that she would spend the following weekend to approach something approaching the finished portrait." – John Tregoning

"I was fascinated by Elizabeth's method of using a Satin Glaze medium mixed with various acrylic colours to build up transparent layers of colour, adding a lovely richness to the portrait." – Pamela Rodoreda.

If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, then doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?

In a recent article by American Wildlife Artist, Kevin Hayler after researching the subject of what art sells best? He says:

"The most popular art subjects include traditional landscape painting, local scenery, and local landmarks. Seascapes do well, as do animals and figurative work. Art buyers like paintings with a background and composed with a distinct focal point. Bestselling wall art tends to have rich colour and is representational.. A reliable list of subjects includes: - Traditional Landscapes, including impressionist. Local Scenes and Beauty Spots, Seascapes. Favorite Animals wild and domestic Pets, especially dog breeds. Figurative. Naive/Primitive." - submitted by John Tregoning.

LAS Committee

President: Anne Picalovski 0414244839 **Vice President/Public Officer** Rodney Harris 0403773979
Treasurer: Jenny Phillips **Secretary – VACANT** **Ordinary Members:** Maria Brockman, Selma Fida, Lynda Hanell, Di Hallinan, Peter Thompson, Victoria Taylor.
Newsletter Editor: Di Hallinan **Exhibition Project Managers:** Anne Picalovski; Jenny Phillips
Social Event Managers: Jenny Phillips, Anne Picalovski **Demonstration Co-ordinator: VACANT**

LAS Weekly Art Groups & Venues

LIFE DRAWING GROUP

Sundays, (short & long poses), 11.30am-2.30pm, \$20 members \$30 non-members. Friday nights, (short poses), 7-9pm
Peter sends Monthly dates by text to class members. \$15 members \$20 non-members L.P. Performance Space. 1 Powerhouse Rd., Casula. Facilitators: Peter Thompson: 0487 198 714 Pamela Rodoreda: (02) 96016078

WATERCOLOUR, ACRYLIC & DRAWING GROUP

Every Wednesday, 10.30am-2pm, Chipping Norton community Centre, cnr Ascot Drive and Central Avenue, Chipping Norton (next to Primary School). \$6 members \$9 non-members. Suzanne Drew: 0425838361

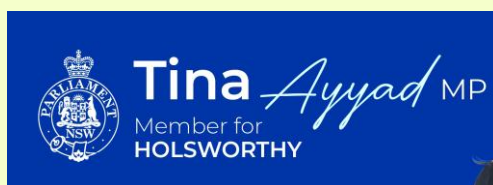
MIXED MEDIA / Oil & Acrylic Painting GROUP

Every Thursday, 10am-2pm, Chipping Norton Community Centre, cnr Central Ave & Homestead Drive, Chipping Norton (next to Primary School). \$6 members \$9 non-members. Linda Ferlazzo: 0418283150

CERAMICS GROUP (N.B. - MEMBERS ONLY)

Every Wednesday and Saturday, 10am-2pm, Ceramics Studio CPAC – 1 Powerhouse Rd., Casula (entry via Shepherd Street or Woodbrook Road). \$6 Facilitator: Selma Fida: 0417 434 446

A Big Thank You to our sponsors for their support...



Many thanks, also, to PrintShop, Liverpool City Council & CPAC for the printing of this newsletter.

AGM President's Report 2025/2026

Dear Members,

The year that was!!! I would like to start with Idil Abdullahi, our Overall Winner of the LAS Exhibition 2025; her ceramic work, "Exhale," is featured in our invitation for the L.A.S 28th Annual Exhibition 2026.

The LAS 2025 LP Scholarship Prize winner, John Wang, with his work, "Morning Town Hall". John's solo exhibition this year, "Observations in Oil," was a great success.

Fifteen works were sold at our 2025 Annual Exhibition, resulting in a 10% commission of \$827 for LAS!!!

Our Demonstrations have gained strength at the Liverpool Powerhouse, which is a great space for our members to participate in. In September 2025, Charlie Roppola Wells presented her unique contemporary style during a demonstration. Bob Gurney in November didn't disappoint with his Plein Air Workshop. Our March 2026 Demo featured renowned portrait artist Dave Thomas, whose expertise and techniques drew an overwhelming attendance. In May this year, we enjoyed a draw-along Demo with Belle Mitchell. In August, the Portrait Demo with Elizabeth Ellen was certainly captivating, with members curious about her process.

Our LAS Artist in the Spotlight at Charishma Kalyiander MP Office in Liverpool was busy, featuring Jennifer Phillips in September 2025 with her animal and wildlife series. In November, we featured another one of our boatshed members, Terry Dolan, who displayed her eclectic taste using oils. In January 2026, Maria Brockman explored her Indigenous South American influence. Barry Kennedy's lively pencil drawing skills were on display at the office in May. Our five talented artists from the Life Drawing group—Peter Thompson, John Tooma, Lorraine Maggs, Pamela Rodoreda, and Attif Alqas submitted their works together in July. Our August member, Margaret Tra, is currently displaying her fun, noodle-inspired paintings.

To further connect our members, we organised a mini LAS Exhibition at Merrylands RSL in July/ August. As much as we would have loved to sell our works, I think everyone was grateful to have participated. We might look into it for next year!!

Now for the fun stuff. Our Christmas Party in November 2025 was, as always, a great success enjoyed by all. The ARTy pARTy in June this year was again a great time for everyone to connect and have a laugh. All our parties at the Cabramatta Rugby Leagues Club is a great space for exhibiting our artworks.

Our weekly groups continue to trend upward, with the Boatshed receiving record numbers. Due to this growth, we have temporarily moved to the Chipping Norton Community Centre while works are being carried to the Boatshed. We are contemplating staying on at CNCC as the Boatshed has limited access for some of our members. The Watercolour group has stable attendance, the Ceramics group is evolving with increased traffic, and our Life Drawing group has added two extra Fridays per month to meet demand, in addition to their usual once-a-month meeting. Thank you to our group facilitators Linda Ferlazzo, Selma Fida, Pamela Rodoreda, Peter Thompson, and Sue Drew.

Well I think that covers the year that was; let's move on and see what this next year will bring. I look forward to seeing you all at our next events and welcome input, ideas, and improvements from you, our LAS Members.

With kind regards, **Anne Picalovski** - President of Liverpool Art Society