

## **President's Report for the AGM of Ku-ring-gai Art Society 1 March 2022**

Thank you for attending the 2022 AGM.

I would like to thank all Members of KAS for their continued support of their society and contributing to a successful 2021 despite the ups and downs of COVID.

Working with such a dedicated team on the committee and having the backing and support of those members in auxiliary roles has made KAS a standout Art Society.

I would like to thank our committee. They are a committed and hardworking team.

Jan HJ our Secretary for the past 16 years does an amazing job despite working full time. Jan produces the agenda for both the meetings and she handles all the mailouts, e and snail, and keeps Members and Committee well informed of relevant events. She collects the newsletters from the printers and does many more tasks, too many to mention.

Susan Smart is our Minutes Secretary who keeps the records straight and knows the Constitution backwards. I find Susan a wonderful listener and giver of good advice when I am unsure of some piece of KAS history.

Caroline Oesterheld our Treasurer manages our finances most professionally, and she is always quick with a reply to any questions I have.

Robyne Berling, our Exhibition Manager curates all 3 KAS Exhibitions and with her team ensures that everything is done to provide all exhibiting artists with equal exposure and a truly professional exhibition. This is no mean feat considering the site and time constraints. Congratulations.

Jeanette Agnew, our new Selection Manager will maintain our high standards, and Eva Molnar, who looks after our Facebook and Instagram profiles.

Please give your committee an applause.

I would like to thank all the members who hold a subcommittee position. These are all vital to the continued successful running of KAS, it would take too long to mention all of you but I would like to mention a few.

Our website under the command of Bryan Freer and ably supported by Anne Carpenter as Assistant Web Manager has gone from strength to strength. We would like to thank all of you who have renewed their membership fees online, particularly those of you who have had difficulties but have persisted with success.

Charmaine Philips continues to manage an interesting list of guest speakers.

Thanks to Thomi Graham who has helped us stay in contact with each other coordinating the newsletter.

Lana Leigh Lombard continues to do the beautiful artwork for invitations and posters.

Suzanne Lane, our Exhibition Manager Assistant who has ably assisted Robyn for many years sees to many minor but important details to help create successful and wonderful exhibitions.

Thank you to the Selection Team Daria Hahn, Melinda Berliner, Yvonne Langshaw, Linda Joyce, Diana Hallows and Nina Payne for maintaining the high standard of the artwork at selection and bump in. They will now be led by Jeanette Agnew.

Kathy Smoker as KAS roster coordinator for all the exhibitions always answers her phone with a cheery hello and works hard to get all the roster positions filled.

Diana Dean and Rosemary Ombler are our Library Managers.

Prue Finlay our workshop Co-ordinator assisted by Barbara Lions have organised both face to face workshops and zoom workshops in the last year and are currently organising more at West Lindfield hall.

Maurice Kelly is our photographer and is supported by Mark Cambourn.

Angela Ferrera is our Membership Secretary as well as working fulltime and studying. She is doing a fine job.

Bill Filson our AV expert opens the hall and sets up the equipment for the Guest Speaker at General Meetings.

Thank you to Richard Roe who will now be booking banner sites and putting up and taking down banners.

I would particularly like to thank Jan Brassil and Louise Surmon who have managed the archival material for many years and are now stepping down, as is Daria Hahn Selection Manager and her husband Erik and Shipra Shara as Vice President.

This Autumn Exhibition we will have approximately 74 artists and 232 artworks for sale.

Our thanks go to The St Ives Shopping Village Management for their continued support and assistance especially at the Spring and Autumn Exhibitions where they have provided us with extra tables to help with COVID social distancing at bump in and out.

Despite COVID and us not holding an Awards Exhibition we were able to negotiate with The Honorable Paul Fletcher MP Minister Communication and the Arts to choose Nina Paine's beautiful painting *Mist over Bobbin Head* for his Christmas card to be sent out to the electorate.

We have made an effort to keep in contact with our sponsors during COVID knowing that they are going through difficult times.

Congratulations to all our new social members we look forward to getting to know you and to our new exhibiting members, we look forward to seeing your work displayed at exhibitions.

There are many members (and partners) to thank who help hang and assist at exhibition intake and those who help out at General meetings to set up and clear away. When everyone plays a part no matter how small it is very much appreciated.

We are extraordinarily lucky to have such a strong society. Many other art societies are struggling to stay viable. Our society is strong because it has many active members who as you have heard make the effort to contribute their time to volunteer. As you can see we have had quite a few resignations. Can I ask those of you who have not held positions before and are not a committee or sub committee member to please seriously consider doing your bit for KAS, it is after all, your society. We are in desperate need of a Property Manager Assistant and a Vice President. If you think that you can help in these roles please contact me.