



First Floor  
Dunedin Railway Station  
22 Anzac Avenue  
DUNEDIN

Open daily 10am to 4pm

P.O. Box 5174, Moray Place,  
Dunedin 9058, New Zealand

Phone: 03 477 9465

Administrator: Ngaire Kitt

otagoartsociety@xtra.co.nz

**OAS COUNCILLORS, 2019-2020**

*President:* Doug Hart

*Vice-Presidents:*

Annie Peppers, Anton Lambaart

*Immediate Past President:*

Nic Dempster

*Councillors:*

Jenny Longstaff, Geoff Adams,  
Julia McNaughton, Raimo Kuparinen,  
Peter Nicholls, Mari Gomes-Bradford,  
Brenda Nyhof, Celia Duff,  
Lorna Allan, Lindsay Campbell,  
Allie Simpson, Danielle Munro.



*We're Back  
in Business!*

The shop layout has been modified to reflect Covid-19 distancing requirements.



The OAS shop and galleries reopened to the public on Tuesday, 2nd June, 2020.

We are Covid compliant and ask that everyone work with us to achieve safe distancing and good Covid practice.

It's great to welcome people back to the galleries again.



**EXHIBITIONS**

- PANZ (pastel artists) has been held over, as has the **Dose (Sophie Smith)** and **Anne & Gemma Baldock** exhibitions. If you missed out on seeing these before lockdown, now's your chance!
- The **144th Annual Exhibition: 'Bursting the Bubble'** is scheduled for 4th July – 1st August 2020. This is an opportunity for our members to reflect upon and express their Covid-19 experiences, to take a look at the post-Covid world and produce an exhibition based on this historic period in time.

*Members' Meeting*

**Thursday 18th June, 7.00pm**

Brian Miller will present a talk entitled **The secret of how rocks shape landscape paintings**, and Doug Hart will present **Anita Reynolds, Dartmoor print artist**.



Anita Reynolds, "Low Light Approaching Western Beacon".

**The Hope and Sons Art Awards 2020 will be held later this year.**

We don't know when exactly (yet), but sponsorship has been confirmed and planning is in hand.

Receiving and exhibition dates will be announced as soon as possible. We'll keep you informed... but in the meantime, get your paintings prepared!



President:  
Doug Hart

Phone 0211346252



Facebook:  
[otago art society](https://www.facebook.com/otagoartociety)



Instagram:  
[@otagoartsociety](https://www.instagram.com/otagoartsociety)

[www.otagoartsociety.co.nz](http://www.otagoartsociety.co.nz)

Back Issues of the newsletter are available on the website.

# President's Message

**Doug Hart**

## Support

A VERY WARM WELCOME to all our members and friends as we head into the cool of winter and a future that is positively warming up for the Society.

### *The definition of support:*

#### **Support**

verb: to bear or hold up (a load, mass, structure, part, etc.); serve as a foundation for; to sustain or withstand (weight, pressure, strain, etc.) without giving way; serve as a prop for.

Noun: the act or an instance of supporting.

NOW MORE THAN EVER, we ask that our members give us their support as we head into a new era for the organisation. It is going to be a challenging road ahead, but one that will see the Society emerge like a Phoenix from the ashes. We have already experienced various acts of support including a very generous gesture from our valuable member, Barbara Cushen. During lockdown she was inspired to paint a picture of teddy bears that she had seen in a nearby window. Barbara then had a limited number of giclee prints produced in order to sell them and donate all the profits to the OAS. This is a hugely generous example of support and loyalty.

Support for the society at this time is crucial for the survival of our organisation. No one could have forecast the effects of this outbreak for New Zealand's families and its economics. We implore members to renew their membership at the end of this month and participate in the planned exhibitions, members' evenings and other future initiatives. We hope to have fun and informative members' evenings running from June and welcome your continued support.

Loyalty has also been demonstrated by Hope and Sons with the sponsorship of their exhibition in the near future. Details of this exhibition will emerge as soon as possible, dependant on government guidelines. Further acts of loyalty are demonstrated by continued sponsorship from Andrew Cook of Artzone, the ODT, Ryman Healthcare, Smeatons, Gallery de Novo, Moray Gallery, Edinburgh Realty and many other organisations and individuals, and also by our volunteers participation in running our shop. Added to this, is the council working hard on your behalf as well as the many members willing to help receive, hang, and repackage the exhibitions, and of course Jenny Longstaff, who puts together the newsletter.

Joan Ayson's illustrated book tribute to her husband, Murray, is now on sale at our gallery shop. It is packed with beautiful artwork and facts regarding a very talented man who devoted a lot of time and energy to the OAS. Purchasing this book will support not only the Cancer Charity but also the Society.



Loyalty is such an important quality for us to have and it will increasingly be of utmost importance as we prepare for the years ahead. Buy local, invest locally and value the quality of artworks that our gifted artists have produced. Tell your friends, visitors, relatives and neighbours that the art society has so much to offer in a variety of ways. We would love to have a vibrancy flowing into the Railway Station to make it a destination where good art is appreciated and local creative products are on sale. 144 years of heritage is at stake and we aim to be a positive part of this city for many years to come.

We have been exploring different avenues in which we can diversify, such as a Saturday art market operating in the station foyer where members can sell lower priced items and which in turn will attract the public upstairs to our shop and galleries; the establishment of online sales to attract a worldwide audience of art buyers and importantly, a more integrated approach with other city organisations.

### *Supporting artists*

Over a century ago, a little-known painter by the name of Vincent Van Gogh was supported by his brother. Despite all the tribulations and setbacks Theo never turned his back emotionally and financially. If Theo had given up his support, we would have been deprived of Vincent's amazing, groundbreaking artwork.

Likewise, Claude Monet received nothing but critical abuse from many journalists which led to no sales and as a result, abject poverty for his family. Belief in his work from his wife finally provided the breakthrough that enabled his art to be accepted and ultimately revered.

Our members add more than just pretty pictures to our community, so it's important to continue supporting them by encouraging and appreciating their art as well as purchasing their work. Many artists have a true passion for making their own communities a better place to live, through their creative artwork.

### *Bursting the bubble*

The first exhibition after lockdown is the Annual 144th Exhibition, renamed 'Bursting the Bubble'. This is a chance to bring in your artwork that you have been working on during the previous months to be enjoyed by the people who visit our galleries. The work need not be about bubbles. We would welcome any new arts and crafts. It's always refreshing to receive ceramics, jewellery, fabric art, photography, wood or metal sculpture, as well as paintings. I thought that people might want to write a few lines regarding the time that they were in isolation to share with the viewers. We would have these written pieces randomly displayed throughout the exhibition to add more interest.

### *Final thought*

Have you ever thought of volunteering in our shop? We would love people to help out on a regular basis. We need volunteers for weekends as well as during the week to welcome and help customers, assist with sales, and the packaging up of items. Please contact our shop staff and support our friendly society.

Have fun and visit us soon in our newly streamlined shop.

*Doug Hart*

*OAS Councillors at the May management meeting discussing future strategies for the society.*

## Members have been generous in their help with fundraising initiatives

Moira Styles – one of our wonderful volunteers who helped make paper orbs to sell as a small fundraiser for the OAS.



## Upcycling

While spring cleaning back-of-house areas, Ness and Sarah found some left over calendars from 2018. They were too beautiful to throw out yet too old to keep – what could we possibly do with them?

Upcycle was the answer – Meg, Moira, Ngaire and crew turned this now defunct quality paper product into fascinating modular origami.

Come and see the installation in our gallery shop. You can take one home for a donation of \$10, \$20 or \$30 and puzzle out how they fit together.

## LIMITED EDITION PRINTS FOR SALE by Barbara Cushen

During the first week of Lockdown I painted this piece of Art and decided to have 10 Limited Edition prints available. All profits from these prints go to the Otago Art Society.

The print is called **“Remember when.....”**

The size is 12” x 17”. The print is professionally printed on Cotton Rag board.

The price of each print is \$140 (includes P&P).

There are only 5 left.

This is the message behind the title, **“Remember when.....”**:

Remember when we read a children’s story about a bear hunt.

We only saw face masks in the operating theatre.

We celebrated Easter in a church.

We reflected on our Anzacs at the Cenotaph.

Remember when the Remarkables Mountains could be seen from the air and business was booming. Remember when ...



Pictured at right are OAS councillors Annie Pepers and Jenny Longstaff. With the OAS premises being closed for several weeks, it was a good opportunity to sort out and tidy some storage areas, and find a few shelves for the extensive archiving that Ngaire had so efficiently completed. As you can see from the photos, we have very limited storage space and it is difficult to access. Please remember to collect your artworks promptly after each exhibition.



## OAS FUNDRAISER OAS Tee Shirts Available

Black with White OAS Logo: \$30  
All profits go to the OAS



To order, simply do the following:

- 1) email [otagoartsociety@xtra.co.nz](mailto:otagoartsociety@xtra.co.nz) and let us know size & quantity.
- 2) Then pay \$30 via direct credit

We will let you know when to collect your OAS tee shirt.



## Thursday Painting Group

(or your own choice of expression)

FOR ALL OF YOU who like to participate in our Thursday Art Group, we are now able to resume meeting again.

A successful session was held on Thursday, 4th June. Members who are new to the group are most welcome to attend. With current Covid precautions, there is room for 12 attendees.

If you would like to come along we meet from 10.30am until 3.00pm in the Hope Gallery. (Bring your lunch.)

Bring a project to work on that is easily portable – paintings, drawings, print work, etc.

This is a pleasant way to spend the day in the company of artistic peers, and a chance to progress with your art practice.

(Because the space is still open to the public, we ask that you please refrain from using noisy, plug-in equipment or messy, smelly materials.)

## Members' contributions to the newsletter are welcome.

Share something of your creative life with a submission to the editor, Jenny, by emailing [j.a.longstaff@gmail.com](mailto:j.a.longstaff@gmail.com)

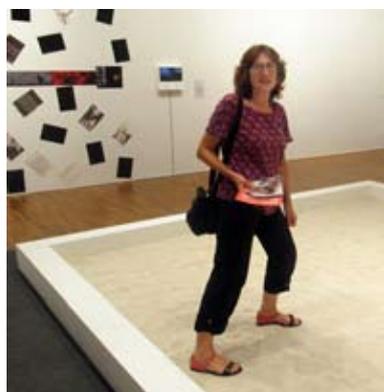
### 'Topping Up' at Singapore Biennales

Contributed by Maxine Burney

...describing her three visits to Singapore to experience the Biennale's artistic delights.



Arriving at the Singapore Biennale, March 2020.



'Footsteps in the sand'... at the National Gallery, making us aware of our footprint in the world.

Feeling a soul connection with South East Asia, and having travelled there many times over the years, in 2013 I thought I would 'go find a gallery to exhibit my work in Singapore'. Un-researched and unannounced, I arrived for a week in December to find a 5-month Biennale, 'If the World Changed', had just begun; SE Asia's equivalent of The Venice Biennale. WOW... what luck! So many galleries dedicated to being part of this rich cultural Art event, I was in art heaven and booked on art tours where possible to gain a deeper insight into some of the work. Staying in the old Colonial area is full of history itself and most places easy to walk to. I discovered Singapore is big on BIG public sculptures, too... what a buzz!

December 2016, with the next Singapore Biennale, 'An Atlas of Mirrors', underway, I am more researched before I head off for my week's cultural fix! I choose to stay in a home-stay with locals, go to exhibition openings, an artist discussion breakfast, attend a 'Build a Shelter' workshop with local artist Debbie Ding at The National Museum, go for coffee with the group and generally feel more involved.



Maxine with husband, Craig. The paper bead-making activity was at the Science Museum, part of 'Futures Imagined', where we had to write and roll our own beads.

As before, there was much installation and site specific work, videos, sculpture, embroideries, collaborative work, very little painting, a lot of reading and background material and some audience participation is on offer. I found it very enriching, and being in Singapore offers other treats like visiting the beautiful Botanic Gardens and Gardens by the Bay.

In 2019, Craig (my husband) said he wanted to come with me for the next Biennale 'Every Step in the Right Direction'. We set off in March this year, to catch the very end of things. A totally different experience with Covid-19 well under way...and touch 'n go... would we even go/get back?? Digital temps taken everywhere and we signed our life away at every gallery we visited. One of the highlights was a full day spent at The National Gallery (the old British Law Courts) chock full of history, art and exhibitions including Biennale works. We lunched at the rooftop bar with stunning Singapore skyline vistas. A Saturday night tour with Citizens Adventure Tours; delved into the depths of 'other sides of Singapore life' including the Red Light area, migrant workers and their role and community groups... fascinating insights...

The works in the Biennale seemed 'darker' this time, the overall mood in Singapore was sombre, not so vibrant and few tourists around; that said, all were friendly and attentive to us, and we feel blessed that we were able to go. Who knows when we will get overseas again???

(Maxine Burney is an OAS member living in Christchurch.)

### Finding inspiration close to home

Jenny Longstaff

International travel will not be possible for quite some time, so we'll have to find inspiration and stimulation closer to home.

We've enjoyed a run of gorgeous Autumn weather recently, so I spent some time strolling in my North East Valley environs with camera in hand and a notebook for jotting down poetic thoughts.



The Stables at Chingford Park, North East Valley



Fallen from grace  
creased and veined  
Autumn leaf reads my palm  
lifeline and heartline

Feedback from members about the newsletter content showed you enjoyed reading what other members were doing. If you have something to share yourself, please send information to me, or if you would like to REQUEST a profile about a specific member, please get in touch and we will approach the member for a contribution.

## Member Profile

### Anton Lambaart

I visited Anton before lockdown to discuss his portrait series for a forthcoming exhibition at the Moray Gallery. (The exhibition date has been delayed.) Anton's work is closely aligned to the Classic tradition – favouring a flawless finish and containing much symbolism. It is Anton's hope that people who view his work (as well as others' art) will be rewarded by going deeper, spending time to 'read' the painting's narrative portrayed within its imagery.

#### Activities during lockdown:

We are well, and have also kept ourselves busy with Peter in the garden preparing for winter and me working away in the studio. I haven't been working on the portraits as they are a little intense for me right now – so I have been working on 6 other works: a very large still life, a few cubist pieces, and a landscape. These works are much looser than my portrait style. It can be a good idea I think, to work differently for a while and explore alternative styles – they each present different types of challenges. Of course, they are not finished yet but they are coming along.

\* \* \*

As far as the exhibition work and the influence of **The Nerdrum School** goes, what attracted me to this style and approach was how they are filled with surprising, engaging and sometimes challenging images suspended in mythical environments that present a beautiful tension between the protagonist in the work, and how they relate to the landscape. One without the other would simply not be as powerful. The works are also so well executed that they demand attention and respect even if the subject or content matter is not socially pleasing. My exhibition, **'The stories young men keep'**, is presented in the same way – some of the stories are not pleasant but they deserve to be told in a way that demands respect and forces an emotional engagement. The Nerdrum School is about creating images that have impact and stay with you long after you have seen them – this is my goal with this body of work.

Of course, added to this is the idea of taking the viewer even deeper still into the meaning of the painting by the inclusion of a story/poem imbedded into the frame. In the tradition of Icon painting (originally called icon writing) and early religious art, the viewer comes to the image knowing there is a spiritual lesson to be learnt. For example, in the **Van Eyck** painting of the **'Madonna and Child Reading'**, we are presented with a small, intimate work where we see the future passion of the child Jesus presented in the room around them; the bowl of water on the right points to Pilate washing his hands of Christ's fate, the eggs at the windowsill foretells the resurrection, the wine below the eggs represents the new covenant and the blood of the lamb, and finally the candle stick representing the last Passover meal (supper) Jesus will attend before his death. The viewer is being told that the Virgin, through her understanding of the prophecies, knew these things and bravely pondered them while attending her child with love and devotion.

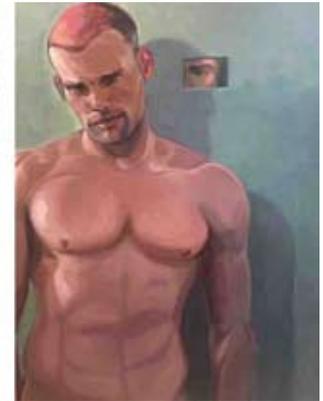
Well, that's all a bit deep but there you go! I hope you can gain some useful insight to my work. *Anton Lambaart*



Anton Lambaart in his home studio.



Anton's goal is to create memorable images. This book about The Nerdrum School is Anton's 'go-to' for other artists' philosophies and memorable examples.



Two unfinished paintings Anton was working on during lockdown.

"The red table" (1 metre x 1 metre, acrylic on board), and "Reni" (1 metre x 650 cms, acrylic on canvas).



Left: Showing the influence of The Nerdrum School, this portrait of Rhys Garder is part of Anton's project for his forthcoming exhibition at the Moray Gallery: "The stories young men keep".



Van Eyck "Madonna and Child Reading", as an example of a painting where careful viewing will reveal more of the artist's intention. Many of the items depicted have symbolic meaning and give clues to the story beyond the painting.

Every painting deserves a lingering look rather than a mere cursory glance. What is the artist saying? What can you bring from your own story?

**COVID-COMPLIANT** To keep our staff, volunteers, and the public safe while conforming with government requirements, these signs have been positioned in our shop and gallery, with perspex screens installed at the sales desk.



## Events Calendar

### MEMBERS' MEETING

**Thursday 18th June, 7 pm**

Brian Miller and Doug Hart will give illustrated presentations. Come and reconnect with your fellow members, or meet new ones, at this sociable and relaxed evening get together.

### EXHIBITIONS

**PANZ – until 20th June**

Come and see the varied works of pastel artists in this national exhibition. The skill level is impressive.

**Dose – until 20th June**

Mixed media works by **Sophie Smith**.

**Gemma & Anne Baldock – until 20th June**

Mixed media works.

**144th Annual Exhibition “Bursting the Bubble”**

- Receiving Day: Sunday 28th June, 12.00 - 4.00pm
- Opening night and awards: Friday, 3rd July at 6.00pm
- Exhibition open to the public: 4th July to 1st Aug.

*Please note: There is a fee for works entered in this exhibition. Check all details on the entry form.*

### Lockdown at the Louvre:

**At the Louvre, Paris – alone at last!**



# ART ZONE

ART MATERIALS  
PICTURE FRAMING

**25% off**  
**Mediums & Varnishes**  
(excludes Golden)

**57 HANOVER STREET,  
DUNEDIN**  
EMAIL [andii@art-zone.co.nz](mailto:andii@art-zone.co.nz)  
PH/FAX (03) 477 0211  
[www.art-zone.co.nz](http://www.art-zone.co.nz)

### 144th Annual Exhibition “Bursting the Bubble” 4th July – 1st August

In this annual exhibition there are several awards to be decided: The Gaye Rowcroft Open Section Awards carry prize money for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of \$400, \$300, and \$100.

Other awards comprise the Mollie & John Pledger Awards (presented to an up-and-coming exhibiting member); the Roy Dickison Trophy “Heart of the South”, for a work best representing the spirit of the South; and the Jean Nelson Award for a work utilising photography.

The awards are named in honour of past members who have been important to the Otago Art Society.

*Please note: There is a fee for entries in this exhibition. Please check the entry form for requirements.*

### Potential Art Opportunity at Titi Restaurant, St Clair



This new restaurant has two wall areas, approx. 3m and 1.3m wide spaces where art could be displayed. They don't have any hanging system yet, so that will have to be sorted first. Register your interest here initially, then we can liaise with Titi to provide some art for their walls. Contact [j.a.longstaff@gmail.com](mailto:j.a.longstaff@gmail.com)

### ‘Paintings from my Palette’ by Murray Ayson

This newly published book contains a selection of 100 of Murray's oil paintings.

Full colour A4 size; 228 pages. Hard cover: \$95 Soft cover: \$65

Proceeds will benefit cancer research and OAS.

**Buy this beautiful keepsake memorial book at the Otago Art Society.**

‘Paintings from my Palette’ purchases can be made at the OAS shop or through the OAS Administrator, Ngaire Kitt: [otagoartsociety@xtra.co.nz](mailto:otagoartsociety@xtra.co.nz)



*Editorial comment:* Unless otherwise attributed, all items in the OAS monthly newsletters are compiled by the editor, Jenny Longstaff (past President 2013–16). The newsletter is approved by OAS Council before printing and distribution.

**Contributions are welcome:** stories, photos, news, exhibitions, tuition etc.

Please email Jenny to discuss: [j.a.longstaff@gmail.com](mailto:j.a.longstaff@gmail.com) or phone her on 021 1326 053. **Deadline:** information must arrive a week before end of month to appear in following month's issue. *The OAS Newsletter is printed by Hope and Sons.*