



First Floor
Dunedin Railway Station
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DUNEDIN

Open daily 10am to 4pm

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OAS COUNCILLORS, 2020-2021

President: Doug Hart

Vice-President:

Annie Pepers

Immediate Past President:

Nic Dempster

Councillors:

Geoff Adams, Lorna Allan,
Anne Baldock, Lindsay Campbell,
Eleanor Girvan, Mari Gomes-Bradford,
Hayley Rata Heyes, Raimo Kuparinen,
Jenny Longstaff, Danielle Munro,
Brenda Nyhof, Bo Stent.



Exhibition judge, Tahu Mackenzie, added sparkle to the awards announcements at a fun OAS night coinciding with the opening of the Dunedin Fringe Festival. (Tahu is the educator at Orokonui Ecosanctuary. She's also a co-designer of the award winning Peka Peka cat-proof bird feeder.)

Meow Exhibition

Sponsored by Humanimals and the New Zealand Natural Pet Food Co.

From sophisticats to alley cats, the gallery walls are currently adorned with a vibrant display of mixed-media artistry. Come and vote for your favourite for the People's Choice Award, or better still, buy a work and give it a forever home.

The exhibition is proving popular with the public. Being part of the Fringe Festival and having activities to attract families has brought new faces in to our premises. It was pleasing to hear a comment about how welcoming the atmosphere is.

Five Award Winners:



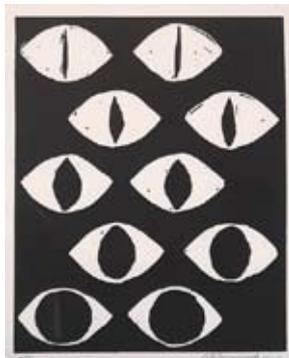
"Gingernut"
Rowena Oliver



"Black Panther"
Mary Jane Sneyd



"Watching Bubbles"
Mandy Palmer



"Five Eyes"
Kate Drummond



"Do Not Disturb!"
Elly Heenan

Members' Meeting

These are held regularly on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.00pm, with a variety of interesting presentations.

(Critique session 6.00-7.00pm)

**Thursday 15th April
at 7.00 pm**

**Miranda Bellamy &
Amanda Fauteux**

***Listening to our Tree
Neighbours and other new work.***

They will be discussing their current art practices, with particular emphasis on their new plant exhibition at the Blue Oyster Gallery next month. *This young, innovative couple will extend your knowledge of new trends in art.*



President:
Doug Hart

Phone 0211346252



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



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www.otagoartsociety.co.nz

Back Issues of the newsletter are available on the website.

President's Message

Doug Hart

Kia Ora.

I have a confession to make. I've got an addiction and I'm apt to put it into effect practically anywhere! On a flight at 35,000 feet, in a hotel at sea level or simply at home halfway up a hill. It involves my brain sending somewhat ridiculous impulses to my hands to make marks on surfaces. Once I start, I find it difficult to stop. I know it's a bit silly and people might say, 'you don't have to do it. Just do something else,' but I can't! It's a bit of an obsession and one I can't do without.

Lines randomly appear on white substances, squiggles and swirls, zigzags and blocks, circles and ellipses and even smudges of indeterminate colour.

Shades and patterns, graphite lines of varying length begin to weave and transform themselves into some recognisable shapes. I can't stop it! Muscles and tendons fired by electrical impulses urge the hand to construct the basis of my thoughts. Is this the cerebral cortex informing my hands of the next move? Left, right, up, down, sideways, diagonally. Large movements, intricate movements with circles and ellipses thrown at the surface, randomly distributed and then like the aftermath of a supernova, condensing into the correct visual form.

It's so exciting, transforming a blank surface into some creative image that speaks or whispers or shouts messages to the viewer.

The obsession continues with colours sweeping across the delineated surface, blocking, bleeding, blending and finally I'm at an end, exhausted and inquisitive as to how my output will appear to other people.

Now is the moment to capture the nascent creation, wrapped securely with tape and card, surrounded by wood and hung on a nondescript surface for all to view.

It's finished, it's over... well nearly, until the next time I feel the compulsion urging me on to my next fix.

Creating art in some form or another is what we as society members do. There are periods of calm interspersed with times of great and productive creativity. It's a shared activity. We can all relate to the process of making something unique that nobody else has got or even thought of. Being an active member of the OAS gives one a sense of tolerance, a sense of belonging and a sense of commitment to share the love of art.

We can try to push boundaries and bring about new ideas allied with new technologies and materials.

This month's members' evening will feature **Miranda Bellamy & Amanda Fauteux**. They will be explaining their new exhibition 'Listening to our Tree Neighbours' and other new work. If you viewed and were emotionally moved by 'In Plain Air', a beautifully crafted film featuring Pauline Bellamy, then please come and hear about the new and innovative realms of art that Miranda and Amanda aspire to.

Obsessions may not be too healthy but certain facets of them move the world forward in surprising ways.

To all our members, old and new.....just enjoy the process and revel in the outcome.

*Kind regards,
Doug*

CRITIQUE SESSIONS

6.00–7.00pm,

prior to members' meetings
(third Thursday of each month).

Members wishing to gain feedback about their artwork, or to discuss exhibition works on display, in a non-judgemental group environment, are encouraged to come for an hour before the members' meeting. Bring something along. ... any ability, any work in any medium, all welcome. This will be a supportive, helpful forum, where you can get advice or suggestions.

Facilitated by Lorna Allan.



It was wonderful to see Jan Ingram, at left, pictured with Moira Styles and Annie Pepers, back in action as a volunteer at the Sales desk. (Maybe the cat food in her hand has put a new spring in her step.)



NZ Festival of Nature: 22-28 April

Bring your work in now for inclusion in our shop display for the festival. Subject matter: local landscapes, flora and fauna, wildlife.

ART ZONE

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Meow Exhibition



The **Filmmaking** winning entry was submitted by five students from St Hilda's: Lucie Holtz and Lily Knox (pictured above), plus Sarah Daley, Courtney Lloyd, and Anika Texley.

Special thanks to Anne Baldock as overall coordinator with the Fringe Festival, publicity and sponsorship; Ngaire Kitt and a team of helpers made cat masks; Doug Hart contributed with story reading, a colouring-in page and the great mouse hunt activity; Raimo Kuparinen set up a detail detective sheet; and Jenny Longstaff organised a poetry evening, with featured guest Kathryn van Beek, author/illustrator of *Bruce Finds a Home* and *Bruce Goes Outside*.

Thanks to other volunteers who helped hand out flyers and decorated the stairway wall with paw-prints.



The exhibition has also provided an opportunity to help Cat Rescue Dunedin with monetary donations and food contributions.

Thank you to those who have been generous.

The activity day on Saturday 20th March was well attended by families, with the highlight for many being the kittens' visit.

Pictured at right: David Corballis on the railway station stairs with his granddaughter Lizzie, an Otago Girls' High School student. Lizzie enjoyed the two days she spent undertaking work experience at OAS.



Seen prowling around at the Meow Exhibition opening on 18th March.



NEW OAS COUNCIL MEMBER

We welcome **Hayley Rata Heyes** to the OAS Council. Her youth, enthusiasm and ability will be assets.

Regretfully, Anton Lambaart and Julia McNaughton have stood down from the council. We sincerely appreciate their service to the art society. Anton has provided valuable advice with branding, marketing, and our permanent collection, and our permanent collection, and Julia has been a stalwart for many years, with committed and efficient involvement in various aspects.



Will you remember us so we Will remember you?

Please consider leaving the Otago Art Society a **bequest** in your will. Charitable Bequests combine philanthropy and tax benefits. Leaving a monetary gift to the Otago Art Society, no matter how large or small, makes a positive difference to the Otago community and to other people's lives, helping the society promote fine art practice into the future. The process of leaving a gift in your will is simple; your solicitor or the Public Trust can help you include OAS in your will. You will need to reference our full name, The Otago Art Society Incorporated, and our charity registration number: CC39908.



Solo exhibition by
Kylie Matheson
"Glad You Found Me"
(with over 80
wonderful creatures)
Gallery De Novo
9th - 22nd April

Opportunity for Painters: **Lawrence Art Competition**

Art Competition - Theme: "Our Land"
21st - 23rd & 28th - 30th May 2021
1st Prize - \$2,500 Tuapeka Gold Print prize - \$500
Shed Boss \$250 3rd prize.
www.lawrence.nz/events

Make contact NOW to request an entry form with detailed registration, entry fee, and submission requirements:
lawartcompetition@gmail.com
Maureen Cummings: Ph. 0274 908 391
Closing date for digital submission entries: 1st May. Artwork delivery: no later than 14th May.

A Nice Compliment

The following message was sent by Ann Jacobson to the office after the recent poetry evening:

Thanks to everyone involved in a very well-run night and entertaining poetry. It made me proud to be a member.
Thanks
Ann

For Cat Lovers

Cat Scratchings:
A Capricious
Catalogue of Wit,
Wisdom, and
Whimsy. \$20



This 50-page, A5-sized book, was written and produced by Jenny Longstaff as an accompaniment to the Meow Exhibition. It contains poems, short memoir stories, and photographs. It can be purchased from the OAS shop, or direct from the author. Email: j.a.longstaff@gmail.com

Hot-to-Trot Promotion Opportunity

The OAS is seeking artists who would like to have their work featured in an advertising slot in the Otago Daily Times weekend magazine, "The Mix", which has a wide readership. The advertisements will appear on the first Saturday of the next couple of months. We need 4 artists for each month. It will cost you \$40, and you will need to provide a good digital image, preferably square. Please contact the office for further information.

Events Calendar

Please collect your works from the Meow Exhibition on Sunday 18th April, 10 – 4pm.

If you can't collect it yourself, we ask that you arrange for someone to do it for you *on the day*. (The National Cleveland Awards preparations will need as much space as possible.)

April Members' Meeting

Thursday 15th April
6.00-7.00pm: Critique session.
7.00pm: Presentation and discussion with
Miranda Bellamy & Amanda Fauteux
Listening to our Tree Neighbours and other new work.

National Cleveland Awards

Selection has been notified; artists' work will be arriving soon, then exhibition hanging will commence and final judging completed.

Exhibition Awards Night
Friday 7th May, 6.00pm

(A private opening night for sponsors, exhibitors, and OAS members.)

Exhibition open to the public from 8th May to 13th June.

EXHIBITION ART in Autumn 2021

April 30th - May 12th

10am to 5pm daily. Free admission.

Dunedin Community Gallery
20 Princes Street.

Paintings and Prints by local Artists:

Alison Belton, Deborah Bell,
Irina Schreiber, Janet Farquharson,
Janet Smith, Judy Wilson,
Julia McNaughton, Lynnette Barker,
Mary Thompson, Naomi Wadsworth,
Stephen Packer.

Coming Soon!

NATIONAL CLEVELAND AWARDS

Exhibition judges: Jenna Packer, Rachel Allan, and Stella Lange.



Raimo Kuperinen hanging one of his interchangeable works for his recent week as a demonstrating artist.

Featured Artist Weeks

The galleries will be occupied with works in preparation for the National Cleveland Awards soon, so the Featured Artist weeks will be drawing to a close. Jennifer Belt is in attendance with her works from 12th to 18th April, followed by Holly Rhiannon Bettis during 19th to 25th.

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 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.*