

Cover Photo: Sarah Freiburger, Crystal Falls, Waipori

Otago Art Society President's Report 2022

Well, another AGM! During a year full of Covid related disruptions and a railway station covered with scaffolding we have somehow managed to sustain a full schedule of exhibitions and activities. Stunning artworks have been shown and sold, there have been some innovative ideas to involve the wider community and we have welcomed new members and sponsors into the OAS.

The disruption has continued with changes to our parking, for drop off of artworks, we are looking at solutions and will keep you informed.

There will be a crane lift over the building during the first part of September when, for a couple of days we will have access limited to the building, but no certainty as to what days that will happen. As you can imagine this has caused a few headaches with planning, but our fast-thinking council has come up with a pop-up show and an artist demonstration week will finish off the month.

Thank you to the OAS community, in particular our hard-working council, volunteers and our wonderful staff, Ngaire, Sarah and Tara. As a new president, there has been a lot to understand about how this place runs and I am very thankful for the support I have received. The kind words and encouragement you have all given after my sometimes wobbly speech-giving means a lot to me.

We hosted the CANZ 60th Jubilee exhibition and admired some stunning ceramics.

We had the 'Making Connections' exhibition, sponsored by Ryman Healthcare, affordable art, our Summer exhibition sponsored by Smeaton's Accounting and had a wonderful time making flowers and trying new ideas for the Fringe 'Pink' exhibition.

Hot on the heels of this was the Hope and Sons Exhibition with 'coming home', followed by the Annual and currently our Edinburgh Realty exhibition. We also supported the Cancer Society's show, making space in the heritage gallery, artist demo days, featured artists, meetings, solo shows and some pop-up shows thrown in the mix.

Thanks to our sponsors for all your support, you make a big difference, helping to keep the society running and providing an exhibition focus for our artists.

Getting mentioned or placed in a sponsored exhibition is a big deal for an artist, providing along with any monetary amount, motivation and encouragement.

Thank you also to our other supporters, the Cleveland Trust, Alex Campbell's Menswear, Crew Recruitment, Sharon Stark Lont Solicitors, Hope and Sons, The ODT, Art Zone, Gallery De Novo, Moray Gallery, the Hughes Family Trust, the Rona Dyer estate and others who have helped in many ways, big and small.

To the wider art-loving community who supports us and regularly buys our art, you not only get a great piece of art, you also provide an artist with an income and a great morale boost. Of course, our wonderful artists who create, we wouldn't be here without you! Thanks for creating and being involved.

Looking forward, we still have some challenges, with scaffolding, parking issues and Covid, but we have some exciting events in the pipeline, cruise ships coming back and of course with our station being revealed in all its glory late next year we have a lot to look forward to.

Open Daily 10am to 4pm

First Floor
Dunedin Railway Station
22 ANZAC Ave

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otagoartsociety@xtra.co.nz

President: Brenda Nyhof
Councillors: Jenny Longstaff,
Anne Baldock, Tash Hurst,
Peter Hurst, Danielle Munro,
Raimo Kuparinen, Mari
Gomes-Bradford, Mary Jane
Sneyd, Doug Hart, Stacey
Roughan, Margot Nicolau,
Jennifer Belt, & Ingrid
Dunkley
Administrator: Ngaire Kitt

Events at OAS

NOTICE: Otago Art Society premises will be closed from 5-18th September due to the building's ongoing maintenance.

15th September Members' meeting will be held at **Toitu Otago Settlers Museum 7:00 pm**. Speaker Peter Read on: Art and the early establishment of colonial Dunedin and the Taieri

4th September Deadline for entry **Show and Tell** See entry form for details. Show dates will be subject to building access.

Get Involved:

There are many ways to get involved at the OAS, and as a volunteer run organisation we rely on you!

Join the Council

We are looking to fill two vacancies on our organising council. We need people (of any age) with a positive attitude that are willing to give new things a go. There are many different ways you can lend us your skills and a great many opportunities for you to learn new ones. We meet once a month for a two hour meeting. Please contact Brenda Nyhof or Anne Baldock for more information: abnyhof@xtra.co.nz annebaldock@outlook.com

Reclaiming Our Story

While focusing on current activities and looking to the future, keeping track of important archival information has been on the back-burner in recent years. While he was on the OAS council Geoff Adams was a dedicated overseer of the Permanent Collection, and now John Timmins, of Moray Gallery, has been working on digitising our historic records. Compiling this information will help with any inquiries regarding specific artists, while also creating a history of the OAS membership and exhibitions.

To assist in this project, we would like members to hunt through their OAS material and bring in any past exhibition catalogues they have. We will scan them and return them to you. Inquiries to: j.a.longstaff@gmail.com or phone Jenny on 0211326053.

Demonstration Week

24th September through 1st October.

Members are invited to demonstrate their techniques and exhibit examples of their works in the galleries. For more details or to book a spot. Contact Lorna Allan to get on the roster lidoone@xtra.co.nz

Volunteer Training Opportunity

This is an opportunity for people to come and learn some skills to make volunteering at the Otago Art Society a little easier! We would love to hear from people which skills they are most interested in and we will try to tailor our sessions to suit.

- How to wrap up a painting safely for courier/postage neatly and professionally.

- How to use our hanging equipment safely - using our long magnets, cords and smart springs and how to shift hanging works safely, safe use of ladders.
- Safe handling and storage of artwork, how to clean glass etc.
- How to successfully curate an exhibition hang with multiple sized and shaped works to display.
- Procedures relating to working in our gift shop - eg. new memberships, freight options, processing credit cards over the phone, eftpos machine use, setting up lay-by, tour of where to find extra supplies etc., using the phone and checking messages.
- Health and Safety Training - what to do in an emergency, special alarms we use etc.

Sessions will be run:

Tuesday 30th August 6pm-7.30pm

Thursday 1st September 6pm-7.30pm

Please email: Anne Baldock at annebaldock@outlook.com or telephone Anne on 021 1081911 or Jenny on 021 1326053 to express your preference in topics offered and most suitable times. If demand is great enough we will set up other sessions to suit our members.

Shop Shifts

We are always looking for people who can take a shift in the shop. If you are new you will always be paired with a more experienced volunteer who can guide you through the processes.

Upcoming Art Shows

- **Show and Tell** deadline for entry will be 4 September
- Our upcoming **Spring Exhibition** will have a theme of 'Happy Place' kindly sponsored by Ryman Healthcare. Entry Forms available soon!

Thursday Painting Group

Open to all OAS members to come along for a bit of painting, inspiration, and socialization. 11:00-3:00 every Thursday. (Open to all mediums)



Thursday Painting group hard at work.

Your Council

Brenda Nyhof:

I've been a member of the Art Society for around 27 years, getting more involved and coming on to the council a few years ago where I helped out with hanging exhibitions, the shop, organising the featured artist programme, demonstration days, and catering.

I've worked various jobs, service station, kitchenhand, coffee shop, teaching art, meat inspector for MAF and fifteen years as a quarantine officer for MPI. Mostly I've worked around my greatest love, Art.

Art wise, I'm a bit of an experimenter, working across various mediums, watercolour, mixed media, oils and in the last few years crazy papier mâché figurines. I love the direction the Society is taking, and look forward to building on what has come before.



Brenda Nyhof: OAS President

Anne Baldock:

As a committed Artist member since 2005, I try to support most OAS events. I have served on the OAS Council for 6 years 2012-2017 (Vice President for 3 yrs) and 2020-2022 (Council member.) I am passionate about ensuring the Otago Art Society is an effective community organisation that is relevant to our members of today; to support members in their art development and encourage increased involvement beyond just exhibiting art. Highlights have been leading the teams for both the Fringe Festival OAS Events - 'Meow' and 'Pink', the '2021 Cleveland National Art Awards', and music Month of May. My main areas of interest are broad: marketing & communications, finance and sponsorship. I believe that collaboration and teamwork achieves great things!

Danielle Munro:

I've been a member of the OAS since 2016 and on the council since 2019. I've recently become a mother of two and have entered a rather hectic phase of life. I've scaled back my day to day involvement but have taken on the role of editor of our newsletter, a role which allows me to work while my children are asleep!

Mary Jane Sneyd:

I'd like to introduce myself as a new Otago Art Society Council member this year. I don't have any art background so being on the Council has been interesting, but it has also been a steep learning curve! I also volunteered, to be responsible for Health and Safety matters, so if you have any concerns over health and safety at OAS, please get in touch with me in the first instance.

Did you know there is a defibrillator in the railway station foyer? And did you know there is a lift from the foyer to the first floor? Until recently I didn't! Anyway, we are looking at redoing the signage so these safety features are much more obvious.

And just a reminder for all members – please do not come into the Art Society if you are at all sick and please wear a mask at all times on OAS premises. There is enough illness around at the minute with Covid and flu and other winter ailments and we are struggling to find enough staff and volunteers. It is important we keep all our members as healthy as possible and we really don't want to share your bugs!



Self-portrait Mary Jane Sneyd

Peter Hurst:

I have been a councillor for the past year and am concerned for the overall governance of the high standards of this important art society.

I also:

Assist in the setting up and completion of exhibitions and support other activities that promote the opportunity for involvement of the gallery and shop.

Seek sponsorship (have already obtained a new sponsor to support gallery exhibitions).

Have an interest in and provide input to financial matters. Occasionally volunteer in the shop.

Tash Hurst:

One of the main aims of the Otago Art Society is to provide attractive exhibition spaces for artists to display and sell their work.

Another aim is to promote creativity in our community. The work we do as councillors is always related to these aims.

One of my roles has been to advertise our exhibitions in the press and also to take photos for use in other areas of

display. I am always hopeful that this will attract more people to the railway station and more artwork will then be sold enabling the society to continue in this great exhibition space. Helping set up the exhibitions is a role that many volunteers including the councillors take part in, and is a good activity for meeting and working with a wide variety of people. It is a busy time but I have always enjoyed the participation.

It is rewarding to be part of a hard working team.



Husband and Wife Councillors Peter and Tash Hurst

Doug Hart:

I'm the outgoing President of the Society and very much an active member. I have a real passion for all forms of art and bringing education to our members and the wider community. During my presidential tenure, I've worked hard to establish an all inclusive society that benefits and supports all artists throughout Otago.

My work is based around local scenes, buildings and wildlife, painted in watercolours.

More of your council will be introduced in the next newsletter so stay tuned!

Thanks

As always, the OAS, for the last 146 years, has been run by volunteers and we are so grateful. A big thank you to the outgoing councillors who have given their time to society; you are in our thoughts. Many of you plan to continue to volunteer where you can, and we look forward to seeing you again soon.



Life time member, patron, and ex-volunteer, Joan Hardey (96), out climbing fences on an excursion with Jenny Longstaff.

Thank you to Ness and Sarah, our shop staff, who have resigned this year. Your friendly faces are already missed!

A further thank you to all our regular volunteers, we would cease to operate without you.

September members' meeting

The Otago Art Society's premises will be closed but the show must go on... with a big thank you to our friends at **Toitu Otago Settlers Museum** for hosting our humble members' meeting while we are locked out of the railway station.

Speaker Peter Read will give a fascinating talk about: Art and the early establishment of colonial Dunedin and the Taieri. There will be time for a Q and A after the presentation so bring your questions.

We would also love for you to bring along a friend! Most of our member's meetings are exclusive to OAS members, but since we are being hosted by Toitu they have asked that the meeting be open to the public. So this is the perfect opportunity to bring along some non-member art and history lovers.

Show and Tell

Show & Tell Pop-up Exhibition – Our next exhibition is a members' only show. Receiving day is 4th September and the show runs through until 1st October 2022. The entry form is available on our website: otagoartsociety.co.nz

Kids' Colouring Competition

The winners of the OAS colouring competition, who do you think had more fun, the kids doing the colouring or the council judging? Entrants were asked to colour the Dunedin Railway Station and draw themselves outside. It was great to see the creative interpretation from the young artists who entered.



Great work all around!

A Night of Art and Dining on the Rails

13.8. 22

A busy night at the Railway Station with people turning up in large numbers to have a meal from the food trucks assembled on the platform of the Railway Station. It was too good an opportunity to miss so the Art Society council decided to take advantage of this and keep the Edinburgh Awards Exhibition open for an extra couple of hours. We put up as much advertising as we could to indicate the gallery was open. Doug and Jenny painted “en plein air” at tables on the platform while Mary Jane and I patrolled the platform encouraging as many people as we could to come up to the gallery. Many of the crowd came up and were greeted warmly by Anne and Sarah who became busy handing out the detail detective activity for children to keep them busy while the parents looked at the art. It was very successful in making more people aware of the Art Society and where it is. – Tash Hurst



Above: Scenes from the Dine Dunedin event.

Left: Paul Allan, who recently played at an OAS member's night.

Below: Jenny and Doug enticing people into the galleries with paint.



A warm welcome to Nina

Hi there artists! My name is Nina Hesom-Williams and I am thrilled to be able to be one of the sales gallery coordinators. A little bit about myself, I grew up in Auckland with very creative parents who took me to exhibitions from a young age so have always loved art, although when it comes to creating it I am rather a beginner! I moved to Dunedin to study fungi at University and loved the city so much I never left. My hobbies include reading and tropical fish, both of which keep me fairly busy. I have been volunteering in the shop for a year or two and my favorite part of that is getting to see the amazing art you guys produce, it is very inspiring so keep up the good work! I am really looking forward to meeting all of you, so feel free to drop by the shop on a Tuesday or Wednesday and say hello.



Workshop Opportunity

John Crump, Scott Hamill and Richard Robinson, are all well respected landscape artists both at home and internationally. They will be hosting a en plein air painting workshop in and around Glenorchy in early December. Check out the links below to learn more about these talented artists.

Richard Robinson: www.mypaintingclub.com

Scott Hamill: www.hamill.fineartstudioonline.com

John Crump: www.johncrump.co.nz

To register, contact Barrett Edwards

Email: barrett@barrettfineart.net Phone: 021 1515270



Edinburgh Realty Art Awards

A HUGE thank you to our wonderful sponsors Edinburgh Realty! They put on another spectacular and prestigious exhibition. Their continued sponsorship is edifying.

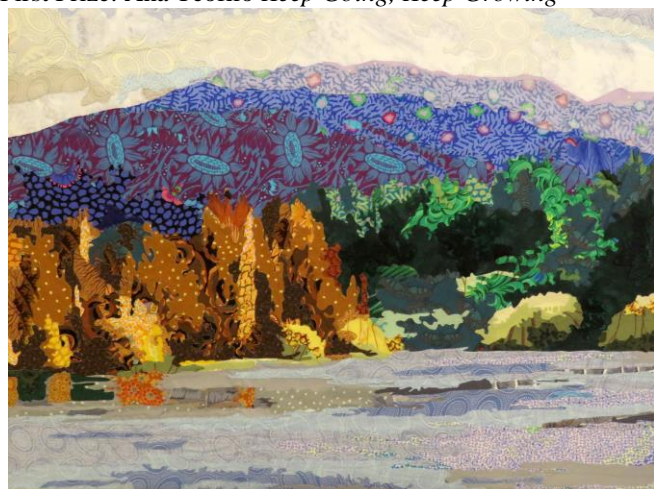
29.7.2022

An eager and expectant crowd of OAS members as well as entrants from other parts of the South Island assembled at the OAS art gallery on Friday evening July 29th. Doug Hart introduced the evening followed by Jenny Longstaff who addressed the meeting in place of our President, Brenda. Jenny thanked the Edinburgh Realty company for their generous sponsorship of this prestigious exhibition.

- Tash



First Prize: Ana Teofilo *Keep Going, Keep Growing*



Second Prize: Mary Jane Sneyd *Clutha River Outlet*

Editorial comment: Unless otherwise attributed, all items in the OAS newsletters are compiled by the editor, Danielle Munro. The newsletter is approved by OAS Council before printing and distribution. Contributions are welcome. Please email Danielle with 'Newsletter' as part of the subject line: daniellemunroart@outlook.com

The OAS Newsletter is printed by Hope and Sons.



Third Prize:
Jude Ansbacher *Glow-worms*

Below
Merit Award: Brian Stewart *The Usual Suspects*



Left: Merit award: Heather Osbourn *Heat*

Below: Edinburgh Award: Sarah Freiburger *Crystal Falls, Waipori*



Below: Following another successful awards night for the Edinburgh Art Awards some of

the team enjoy a well-deserved drink downstairs at our neighbouring business - Cobb and Co. (Tash Hurst, Anne Baldock, Sarah Ellis, Jenny Longstaff and Peter Hurst)

