



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.



*Season's Good Wishes to everyone,
from the OAS Council. Happy holidays!*

*We hope you have enjoyed your involvement with
the society this year, and we look forward to seeing
you at OAS events and exhibitions in 2020.
We welcome your participation in YOUR society.*

*The next newsletter will be in February.
An information update will be emailed out
to members in January.*

Demo Weekend 23-24 Nov.

This year's Demonstration Weekend, with 20 participating artists on-site, proved not only to be a big hit with the public but also with the artists themselves, as it provided a wonderful opportunity for discussion, sharing information, conviviality, and 'having a go' at something different – particularly with printmaking.



Above: David Corballis and Rod Eales.
Left: Ngaire Kitt, our administrator, proved to be a drawcard with her 'jelly prints' (monoprints from designs on a gel square). Here, several OAS artists are gathered to try the technique. Children and adults enjoyed the chance to try things in a friendly atmosphere. Below: Celia Duff explaining a technique to Yun Ji.



*A Special 'Thank You'
to all our wonderful volunteers.
Your contribution of time and
energy is greatly appreciated.*

*With the cruise ship season making life busy
in the galleries, we welcome new volunteers.*

On Now!

Our Affordable
Art Show, all
under \$1,000.
Runs until 9th Feb.



Get ready for new shows in 2020, especially 'Summer Squares' where we invite you to produce artwork that is square and up to the maximum size of 50x50 cms. (This **does not** exclude ceramics or 3D modelling.)



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

Back Issues of the newsletter
are available on the website.

President's Message

Doug Hart

I want to start this newsletter with **huge congratulations to Liz Fea and Kylie Matheson** who were accepted into the prestigious National Ceramics Exhibition – such talent, displayed by two of our members, which wowed the public and judges in 'The Portage' in Wellington. Enormous applause for Kylie who was awarded 2nd place.

The world of **CERAMICS** goes back a long way in history. Originally, ceramics were used in a functional way such as for transporting liquids, storing food and as cooking implements. With the advent of Islam, ceramics became far more elaborate, affordable and inventive. The importance of ceramics was brought about by the ban on Muslim men using gold vessels. Lustrous glazes enhanced the interior and exterior of ceramic objects.

The huge increase in Chinese ceramics and firing techniques had a major impact on the industry and as a consequence, beautiful artworks began to proliferate throughout the eastern world before reaching Europe.

The use of porcelain, which required pure kaolin clay, and the invention of sophisticated kilns and glazes, produced durable and elegant wares and artworks.

The very nature of digging up clay, shaping it and placing it in an extremely hot fire, is a fundamental start to the process of ceramic art. One wonders when the ancient people realised that they could preserve an image in such a basic material. Over millennia ceramics were refined and evidence of this process is being discovered constantly, globally from China to the Peruvian Andes. Ceramics never decay, lasting for millennia, and always retain their sense of style, purpose and symbolism. We can be inspired in our own art by studying the clay figures and objects that have been around for thousands of years. I'm always amazed at the power of African figures fashioned in clay and the beautifully rendered geometric Islamic tiles that adorn places like the Blue Mosque, or Hagia Sophia in Istanbul and the Alcazar Palace in Seville. These elements feature in some of my paintings which involve structures and legends.

There is a broad distinction between "fine arts" – unique objects created purely for their visual or aesthetic appeal – and objects which, no matter how visually decorative, are usually functional and typically made to a formula. Fine art pottery, or ceramics, describe artistic works, while the term "pottery" tends to be reserved for pots, dishes and other functional items. These definitions are not absolutely precise because some ceramic items can be both beautiful works of art and still have a function.

We are very fortunate in the society to have talented members practising the discipline of pottery and ceramics. I'm always pleased to receive these entries for our exhibitions as they provide a different perspective against the backdrop of paintings, photographs and fabric art.

Looking forward to 2021

I recently attended an awareness meeting at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery in which we discussed the accessibility of art for people who are deaf, partially sighted or disabled in some context. The OAS is well on the road to providing access to our galleries and also to actively participating in creating and exhibiting everyone's art. With the advent of the Ara Toi art strategy, we can definitely state that we have embraced the principle of inclusion.

I have an idea that I would like to run by you all relating to 2021. My proposal is to run an exhibition entitled '**Please Touch Me**'. It would involve paintings, models, ceramics etc. being displayed which the public would actively be encouraged to touch and feel – textures, layers of paint, grooves, silks, hessian, plaster, swirls etc., anything that can be experienced through the sense of touch. It would enable partially-sighted and blind people in particular to experience art by exploring its surfaces and hopefully building a visual image in their minds. It would also benefit children, who are normally told not to touch, to interact with the art works. If you have ideas relating to this proposal then please drop me a line at the galleries.

Finally, I'd like to wish you all a very **Happy Christmas and New Year**. 2020 is shaping up to be a really busy and exciting year for the society. Thanks to all the volunteers and supporters who make us that friendly inclusive organisation. An example of active volunteering was in evidence during the launch of 'The Daring' group exhibition on 30th November, when members of the OAS council came in to serve drinks, man the sales desk, buy, prepare and serve the food, and then to clear everything away.

Well done, team!

Doug Hart

Note from the Newsletter Editor:

I'd like to add a personal Thank You to 'Captain Doug' - our president, who leads from the front as a volunteer, putting in enormous hours in various directions to run an interesting programme for OAS members and to keep the OAS to the forefront of Dunedin's art community. *Jenny Longstaff*



Introducing Sarah Ellis – our new staff member in the Sales Gallery

We extend a warm welcome to Sarah in joining the OAS family. Having completed a Law degree and Art History at Otago University, Sarah spent 10 years in Wellington with government legal jobs and has now come home to Dunedin and her first love – art. Sarah is a young mum with two children, so she should be good at wrangling pesky artists! We are delighted to have her on board with Ness in the Sales Gallery.



Helpful Volunteer

Now we are in the busy tourist season, we really appreciate the valuable work our volunteers do.

Natalie Hyland is pictured checking entries in the Love, Buy, Take, Affordable Art exhibition. As a 4th-yr Dentistry student Natalie has limited time during the year, so is now able to assist.

Could YOU offer a helping hand in some capacity?

NGAERE MOSS

(Contributed by David Corballis)

The OAS was deeply saddened to learn of Ngaere Moss' death last month. Ngaere was part of our historical fabric, becoming a member in 1972, and participating in many of our pivotal moments, including the establishment of our first permanent home at the Old Northern Post Office during the days of Shona McFarlane and Fred O'Neill, and later in the shift from there to our present location in the Railway Station. She served on our council from 1995, was Vice President from 2006 to 2015, and was awarded Life Membership in 2014.

Her interest in art was fostered by her work as a graphic artist for the DIC, a department store, in the building the Dunedin Public Art Gallery now inhabits. Her work there explains both her flair and interest in fashion. She did some lovely fashion drawings and watercolours, one of which won the Caprice Award in the 2012 Fashion Focus Exhibition.



Paintings by Ngaere Moss:
Dunedin North Post Office
(OAS Permanent Collection).



Spotlights and Footlights,
2012 Caprice Award, in the Fashion Focus Exhibition.

Far right: Photo taken at the 2014 AGM, with then-President Jenny Longstaff, after Ngaere was awarded Life Membership.

Earlier, she worked in acrylics, painting landscapes and seascapes. There is a painting of hers, the Old Northern Post Office, in the OAS permanent collection.

Two of her main roles in the Railway Station were overseeing gallery bookings and supervising hangings for exhibitions. At this stage we were still sorting out the use of the different spaces available to us in the station, and how to cater for private bookings along with the availability of galleries for our own exhibitions. Her role also involved confirming that those who booked knew our expectations and received the help they needed. In all this, Ngaere believed in personal contact and discussion, rather than email. Her system involved real paper and pen – she maintained a diary that was tangible, not digital.

Ngaere was a delightful person, unassuming yet with an infectious enthusiasm. During the earlier years in the station we performed some melodramas at our August AGMs. They were relatively brief but enjoyable affairs where council members – those who were brave enough to volunteer – revealed their talents for overacting, and the audience were encouraged to cheer and hurl insults. Bad acting was de rigueur. Ngaere would love to have appeared on stage as heroine, even villain, but her talents on the piano were too precious. Her music did so much to enhance the onstage performances.



Ngaere Moss died 22 October 2019, after a previous diagnosis proved to be mistaken. Her death passed without fanfare and was a shock to those who knew her. And there were many. Now she has closed her diary, and we will all miss her presence. Our deep sympathies go out to her family and friends.

Spring Exhibition People's Choice Award



1st: Christabel O'Leary, Lazy Summer Days.

2nd: Jane Tui Schwenke;
3rd: Don Allan; 4th equal:
Alicia Elder, Sarah Freiburger,
Liz Watson; 7th: Sharon
Richardson; 8th: Kylie Matheson;
9th equal: Don Allan, Lorna
Allan, Jerry S Howlett.

Exhibition Launch: 'The Daring' 30th Nov. (On show til 8th Dec.)



Be quick to catch the last days of this exhibition in the Hope Gallery by four of our OAS artists, pictured at left: **Marian Dawson, Murray Hanan, Di Wales, and Joy Heazlewood.**

The launch was a great success – well attended by friends and relatives who came from near and far to support the artists and enjoy the wonderful variety of art on display, the culmination of a couple of years in the making. There were 17 purchases on the night.

Worthy of special mention was **Brenda Nyhof's** superb effort in catering to over 150 guests (and then to donate the reimbursement for her expenses to the Dunedin Wildlife Hospital, a truly generous gesture).



Left: Brenda Nyhof serving guests at the exhibition launch.



Above:
Claire Beynon and
Anton Lambaart.



Left:
Danielle Munro,
with husband Louis.

Below:
Eleanor Girvan.

“Finding the Words” was the theme for the last Members’ Meeting of the year, on 21st Nov. The appreciative audience was treated to a fascinating presentation by poet and mixed media artist **Claire Beynon**, followed by creative writing contributions from OAS members Danielle Munro, Eleanor Girvan, Anton Lambaart, and Jenny Longstaff.

Events Calendar

• **‘THE DARING’, until 8th Dec.**
Group show by four OAS artists:
Di Wales, Joy Heazlewood,
Marian Dawson, & Murray Hanan.

• **LOVE • BUY • TAKE**

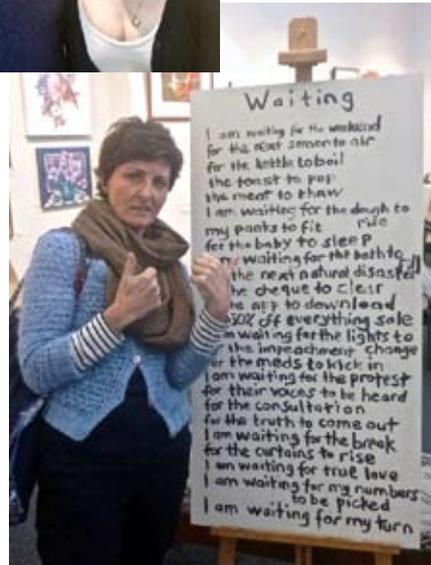
Affordable Art, everything under \$1,000. (Unsold works to be picked up on 9th February.)

When works are sold and taken they will be replaced by others. All works submitted must have an entry form.

• **50 PHOTOGRAPHS**
for viewing and purchase,
by John Van Heezik, N.Y.I.P.
(New York Institute of Photography)
9th to 22nd December.



Anneloes Douglas is an effective and inspirational Art Tutor. Here she is pictured attending to her own art interests at the OAS Monday Artists’ get together, offered for those who can’t attend the Thursday session (both days from 10.30 to 3pm). Come and enjoy working alongside some fellow members.



Art Classes with Anneloes Douglas

(Venue: North East Valley Community Rooms). These continue during December with the last class on Friday 20 December, and will start again in 2020 on Thursday 16 January. For more information please contact Anneloes on anneloes.douglas@xtra.co.nz or (03) 467 9993 and 027 3077 034.

ART ZONE
ART MATERIALS
PICTURE FRAMING

**25% off
Printmaking Supplies
(excludes paper)**

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

HOPE AND SONS

ART AWARDS 2020

ENTRIES CLOSE
6 APRIL 2020

ENTRY FEE
ONE ENTRY: \$30.00
TWO ENTRIES: \$50.00

PRIZES
1ST \$5000 | 2ND \$3000 | 3RD \$2000
PEOPLE'S CHOICE \$500

**FOR MORE DETAILS
AND THE ENTRY FORM**
WWW.OTAGOARTSOCIETY.CO.NZ
OR WWW.HOPEANDSONS.CO.NZ

ENTRIES NOW OPEN

EXHIBITION
OTAGO ART SOCIETY,
DUNEDIN RAILWAY STATION

2 MAY 2020 – 13 JUNE 2020
OPEN DAILY 10AM - 4PM

HOPE & SONS
FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Established 1887

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.*