



TAURANGA
SOCIETY OF
ARTISTS

Newsletter

April 2026

From the President...

Hello there,

I have had the pleasure of attending two days of Watercolour workshop with Charlotte Hird from Wellington (picture is of Charlotte and me at the workshop). Charlotte's sessions were full and well enjoyed. See review later. It is great to have tutors come from other areas with fresh ideas and techniques.



However, in saying that, I do appreciate the willingness of our own members – skilled in their own field – taking up the challenge to host tutorials in our new INTRO ART sessions on Wednesday mornings. March has been 'All about Eyes' and the tutorials have been well attended. I do encourage you to keep an eye on what's coming up in these tutorials and book in for relevant sessions. The idea is that members can have a go and learn about new subject or mediums without the expense of equipping themselves with all the materials needed. The tutor provides the materials in the tutorial. April is **pastels** month and May will be **mixed media**. If you are keen to learn from an experienced member – chalks, pencil or oil pastels – see the programme or website and jump on in. Each session is \$30. Register on our website.

Competitions: Thank you to Ruth Kenyon-Slade and the Competitions Team for a very smooth running and successful morning on 7 March. See photos and listed winners later.

The big event for April, of course, is our **Expo**. By now entries have closed and the Exhibition Team are all organised for another fantastic event on 14–19 April. Even if you haven't entered art to exhibit, all members are welcome to help in any way and attend the gala opening and generally be a part of our major event. More details later.

Coming up in April – apart from the Intro Art sessions – is an **oils workshop**, hosted by Damien Kurth. This is fully subscribed, but there is a wait list for those who have missed out. If there is enough interest in any workshop we will arrange another in the following months, so do let us know.

The organising teams of the Society do their very best to provide what members want, but it is a collaborative system and if you have any needs or requests, we would love to hear about them. It makes a lot more sense to respond to requests for subjects, events, services, etc. than to just dream up what we think you want. tutorials@taurangaart.com or info@taurangaart.com are the two contact emails you can use.

Have a great month. See you at the Expo.
– **Deb Clarke** | President | 0274 961 752 | info@taurangaart.com

P.S. Next time you visit the Art Room, notice the smart new signage on the outside! Thanks, Keith Munro, for hanging them up.



COMMITTEE & CONTACTS

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Society Membership Fees

Annual \$75

Click [here](#) to visit our website

What's been happening?



New Member Happy Hour



Our recent New Members Happy Hour was a fantastic success, with 49 new members attending — a wonderful turnout and a great sign of the strength of our growing TSA community.

Members enjoyed drinks and delicious nibbles — a big thank you to everyone who contributed to the food.

We were treated to an informative overview from Deb Clarke, who highlighted the many benefits and opportunities TSA offers its members. From workshops to competitions to exhibitions to the Daily Programme there is plenty to look forward to.

Helpful insights about the upcoming Expo were also shared by Diana Roband, giving members a clear picture of what's ahead and how to get involved.

A special congratulations to Sook Jung, who was the lucky winner of the \$50 Gordon Harris voucher in our new member draw!

A warm welcome again to all our new members — we're delighted to have you with us.



Autumn Competition

Our Autumn Competition was held on **Saturday, 7 March 2026**, with an impressive **141 artworks entered across 11 categories by 45 talented artists**.

It was wonderful to see **13 new members** entering the competition, with several of them also receiving awards. Judge **Nick Eggleston** began the morning by sharing three of his own artworks, giving members a glimpse into his **illustrative acrylic painting style**. He judged the entries with efficiency and clarity, enabling the awards to be ready for presentation by **11am**.

While judging was underway, members enjoyed tea in the art room and an engaging talk from photographer **Nick Clegg**, who spoke about **creating strong reference photos and photographing artwork effectively**.

The **Beauty of Nature** category proved the most popular with **23 entries**, followed by the **Landscape** category with **20 entries**.

Special congratulations go to new members **Marian Kroeze**, who received **four awards including three trophies**, and **Andy Davies**, who earned **three Merit Awards**.

The Competition Team extends heartfelt thanks to all members who assisted with **setting up and packing down**, as well as those who offered their help on the day. Your support helped the event run smoothly.

The next competition will be our **Spring Competition**, to be held on **15 August**. Please see the **TSA website gallery** or the **Art Room corridor** for further details about the competition categories and rules.

– **Ruth Kenyon-Slade and the Competition Team**

Photos of trophy winners on the next page and photos of all winners are on our [website](#).

TSA AUTUMN COMPETITION RESULTS

RICHARD PERKINS MEMORIAL TROPHY	Still Life
Trophy Winner – Marian Kroeze	Merit Awards – Ruth Kenyon-Slade, Joss Harris
ERIC HUSSEY CUP	Landscape (incl. Cityscape)
Trophy Winner - Deb Clarke	Merit Awards – Andy Davies, Wendy Ruane
ERIC HUSSEY CUP	Seascape
Trophy Winner – Wayne Gordon	Merit Awards – Marian Kroeze, Andy Davies
THELMA GRAHAM PLATE	Portraiture
Trophy Winner – Ulemj Glamuzina	Merit Awards – Rex Homan, Ivan Lloyd
JOAN LUSHINGTON SKETCH TROPHY	Pencil
Trophy Winner- Ulemj Glamuzina	Merit Awards – Ivan Lloyd, Rex Homan
REG CHALMERS MEMORIAL ROSE BOWL	Black & White
Trophy Winner – Lalita Shine	Merit Awards – Jayne Lydford, Keith Munro
DALE MITCHELL MEMORIAL CUP	Mixed Media
Trophy Winner – Janet Fox	Merit Awards – Marilyn Muirhead, Mariana Lucas
RAY THOMPSON "LA VIE" TROPHY	Figure
Trophy Winner – Marian Kroeze	Merit Awards - Lyn Watts, Dana Sweeney
McTAVISH TROPHY	Pen & Ink
Trophy Winner – Rex Homan	Merit Awards – Bronwyn Copeland, Bruce Hutchinson
DARA KORU TROPHY	First-Time Trophy
Trophy Winner – Marian Kroeze	Merit Awards – Andy Davies, Ratree Sawat
TSA TROPHY	Beauty of Nature
Trophy Winner – Leonie Johnsen	Merit Awards - Ruth Kenyon-Slade, Deb Clarke



Marian Kroeze – Still Life



Ulemj Glamuzina – Pencil



Wayne Gordon – Seascape



Lalita Shine – Black & White

Autumn Competition Winners



Marian Kroeze – First Time



Marian Kroeze – Figure



Janet Fox – Mixed Media



Leonie Johnsen – Beauty of Nature



Rex Homan – Pen & Ink

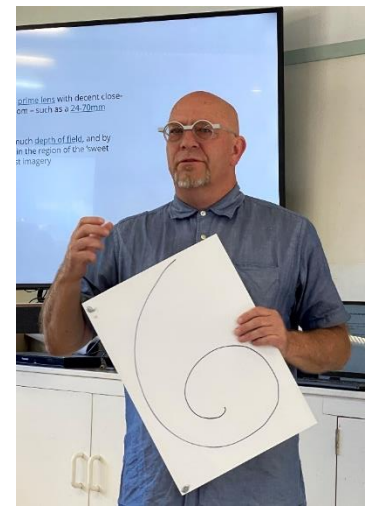


Ulemj Glamuzina – Portraiture



Deb Clarke – Landscape

Competition Guest Speaker



Whilst the competition entries were being judged, artists and supporters enjoyed a cuppa and a catch up. Local photographer, Nic Clegg (Nicholas Charles photography), gave an engaging talk on creating strong reference photos and photographing artwork effectively. The talk was well received and provided helpful insights for artists looking to improve both their reference material and the way they document their work.

Membership

This month we have lots of new members to welcome to TSA. They are Ingrid Keizan, John East, Marie Hoggard, Catalina Toro Vasquez, Helen Boyle, Carol Bisset, Peter Grace, Kerry Parkinson, Robyn Sutton, Chris Saxton and Agatha Janissen and Pauline Boocock.



The annual Membership Subs Invoice has been sent to all members and already we have had lots of you paying the \$75 due. Please remember to pay it to our Westpac Account Number 03 0435 0457931 00 (This is not the same bank account as the Expo account.) Reference it with your 'Name' and 'SUB' so your payment will be easily identifiable. The Due Date for the payment is 31 March 2026.

For those of you not wanting to renew your membership please send me an email to let me know at membership@taurangaart.com

The New Membership Cards have arrived and there is a pile of them at the bottom right-hand corner of the Name Tag Board in the art room. Please help yourself to one when you have paid your subs. They will be available at Expo and the AGM as well.

– Diana Roband. Membership Coordinator

What's Coming up?



By the time you receive this newsletter we will be on the final countdown to the April Expo. It is going to be another extravaganza of Art for everyone to enjoy. Please share the Expo poster with your friends and family and encourage them to come along on our Open Days Thursday 15 – Sunday 19 April. Each day we are open from 9am – 5pm except Sunday when we close at 3pm to enable our buyers to return and collect their lovely new artworks.

Please note:

- Registrations have closed.
- You cannot exhibit artworks that you have exhibited at Expo in the previous two years.
- The labelling has now been completed for all entries and no changes can be made.
- There are TWO rosters. One that pertains to the Setup, Gala and Pack down. The other one is the roster for the four days that Expo is open to the public. There is an expectation that all exhibiting artists will help in some way.
- A big thank you to everyone that has offered to help at Expo, especially those that aren't exhibiting artworks. The generosity of your time is much appreciated by us all.
- All members are invited to attend the Gala at 6pm on Wednesday 15 March. This is a highlight of the TSA calendar and we would love to share it with you. Light refreshments will be served and you will get to be the first to see the artworks that are being exhibited. Artworks are available for purchase after the Expo has been opened by Sonja Korahina, the Tauranga Art Gallery Director.

– Diana Roband – Exhibition Coordinator (021 909 807)

Key Dates

Wednesday 4 March	Registration packs will be emailed out to all TSA members
Tuesday 14 April, 1pm	Set Up Day at Tauranga Boys College
Wednesday 15 April, 8am	Art Set Up Day at Tauranga Boys College
Wednesday 15 April, 6pm	Gala Opening
Thursday 16–Sunday 19 April	Expo Open Days
Sunday 19 April, 4pm	Expo Pack Down

Support Our Sponsor – Bethlehem Paper Plus

We're delighted to acknowledge Bethlehem Paper Plus as a valued raffle sponsor for our Art Expos. The store is owned by Andre, Kerry and Neville Butler, who took over in August 2025, continuing their family connection with the Papamoa store, now run by their daughter Hayley and her partner James.

TSA members receive **10% off art supplies and 30% off canvases** (with membership card), with discounts also honoured at the Papamoa store.

They can order from an extensive art materials catalogue, so if you need something specific, just ask. Staff member Alexandra Holmes, a practising artist with a master's in art and design, is available to offer technical advice.

Please consider supporting Bethlehem Paper Plus when purchasing your supplies – our sponsors' support helps sustain our Expos.



Meet the team behind Bethlehem Paper Plus — Andre (left), Kerry and Neville Butler — proudly supporting our Art Expos and local artists. When you shop with them, you're backing a family business that backs us.



ART EXPO



Thursday 16th - Sunday 19th April

9am - 5pm - Sunday 9am - 3pm

Tauranga Boys College Gymnasium

Cnr 14th Ave and Devonport Rd

People's Choice Award

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Guest Exhibitor



Tauranga Floral Art

**Largest Art Expo
held in the Bay**

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This month, Thursday morning oil painting group is displaying pictures in the art room.

We have up to 15 members here some mornings. However, with the Expo this month many artists are unable to display their latest work. So, some of the work you will have seen before.

We hope you enjoy it again.

– **Karen Pritchard, Thursday morning convenor**, Oil painting plus other medium



Eight paintings by the Artist of the Month are displayed for your enjoyment with a bio at the Art Room (171a Elizabeth St West) for the month. If you would like to have your art displayed for a month, contact admin@taurangaart.com

Pastels Report – Mary McTavish

The South Island has much to offer us North Islanders by way of landscapes and vast tracts of uninhabited land that seem to stretch forever. We have seen so many sheep, mobbed in huge paddocks, prior to shearing, making bleating noises that are carried away on the winds that sweep through the valleys.

We are here on a family journey looking up and finding old relatives from early settler days with the name of McTavish in and around Dunedin. We travelled to Larnach Castle and spoke with Catherine, the current owner, one of the Barker family, who took over the Castle in 1967. She is now in her mid-eighties and surrounded by the history of her forbears and with over 90 staff to keep the place looking amazing for the tourists and locals alike. What a huge responsibility to be steward of such a landmark.

I have brought my sketch book and am attempting to capture the colours of the trees, maples mainly, now showing their autumnal colours and seeing gardens full of plants I have never seen in NZ before. They must be much hardier than ones that grow in the Bay of Plenty tolerating the winter chills like nothing we get at home.

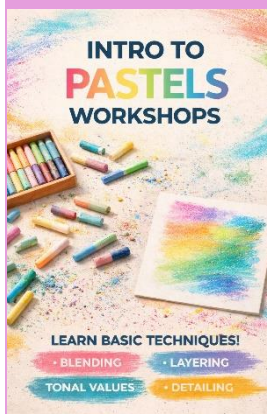
How fascinating to be an artist and see so much beauty and colour around us and appreciate the precious family paintings that hang in these wonderful old buildings down here. We have stayed, so far, in Oamaru, Christchurch and now Dunedin with art galleries and exhibitions aplenty to whet my imagination and the opportunity to visit actual art shops with real people who are so kind and friendly.

We are working our way through the Matua Life exhibition opportunity and some of our members have kindly offered to involve themselves in the Intro Art sessions. Those attending must appreciate that we are all volunteers and not necessarily professional tutors nor would we pretend to be so you must be tolerant and accept that we have also much to learn ourselves and are just ‘tasters’ for you to see and try other mediums. Pastels will be open at the Art Rooms on Easter Monday as one of our twice monthly sessions. Hope to see you there. Best wishes from the deep south.

– **Mary McTavish**

Wednesday morning Intro Art Series Pastels

8, 22, 29 April 2026
9.15am – 12.00pm



Curious about working in soft pastels? Join us for a relaxed three-session Pastel Foundation Series designed especially for our Art Society members. Pastels offer exciting possibilities, with their pure pigment producing strong, luminous colour.

Held on Wednesday mornings, each session costs just **\$30**, with **all materials provided** – simply bring your curiosity and enthusiasm. Whether you're completely new to pastels or have dabbled and want to build confidence, these sessions will give you practical skills, helpful tips, and plenty of hands-on practice in a supportive environment. Come along and discover just how versatile and vibrant this medium can be!

You are welcome to register in one, two or all three sessions via our website at <https://www.taurangaart.com/workshops>

1. 8 April June MacKenzie and Mary McTavish

At this Pastel Foundation session, June will share practical techniques, including how to use complementary colours for underpainting on sanded surfaces to create depth and richness. All materials will be provided, including pastels, PanPastels, pastel pencils, and a variety of surfaces – so come along, experiment, and discover the creative potential of pastels for yourself.



2. 22 April Bridget Bambury

Join artist Bridget Bambury for an engaging Intro to Chalk and Oil Pastels workshop. This hands-on session will introduce simple techniques and give you the chance to experiment and create your own artwork. Suitable for beginners and those wanting to explore a new medium.



3. 29 April Ivan Lloyd

Join Ivan Lloyd for a Pastel and Pastel Pencil workshop, exploring the fundamentals of working with soft pastels. This easy-to-follow, step-by-step session will include demonstrations and will guide you through starting an artwork, understanding tonal values, building layers using pastel sticks, adding final details with pastel pencils, and using a limited colour palette. Ideal for beginners or anyone wanting to strengthen their pastel skills.



Practical Oil Painting Fundamentals with Damien Kurth

Saturday & Sunday,
25-26 April 2026

In this workshop participants will learn practical approaches to using oil paint and how to problem solve issues that arise in the painting process. This will include colour theory, composition, value, and understanding proportions. The workshop is suitable for all experience levels.

Cost for the weekend is \$180, with a maximum of 10 participants.

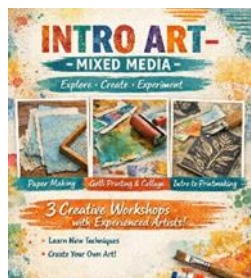


REGISTRATIONS CLOSED – WORKSHOP FULL

Please email tutorials@taurangaart.com if you would like to go on a waiting list

Wednesday morning Intro Art Series Mixed Media

13, 20, 27 May 2026
9.30am – 12.00pm



Join us for a fun and inspiring series of three mixed media workshops, each led by an experienced artist. Across the series, you'll be introduced to paper making, Gelli plate printing and collage, and printmaking – giving you the chance to explore a range of creative techniques. Perfect for beginners or anyone wanting to try something new, these hands-on sessions are all about experimenting, learning new skills, and enjoying the process of making art.

You are welcome to register in one, two or all three sessions via our website at <https://www.taurangaart.com/workshops>

1. 13 May Paper Making with Janet Fox

Discover the creative process of making your own handmade paper in this fun and practical **Paper Making Taster Workshop**. Learn how to transform simple materials like egg cartons into unique textured sheets using basic techniques. Perfect for beginners, this hands-on session lets you experiment, create, and take home your own handmade paper



2. 20 May Gelli Plate Printing and Collage

Lynne Dara is an experimental artist working across encaustic, collage, and printmaking. For the past five years, she has been having fun exploring mixed media, working with oils, acrylics, Gelli print papers, and collage. In this workshop, she'll show you how to print onto tissue paper using a Gelli plate, then show how these unique prints can be incorporated into collage. She will also bring along a selection of her completed artworks created using this technique, along with a variety of her hand-printed papers, to demonstrate how these elements can be transformed into finished pieces of art.



3. 27 May Print Making with Jackie Knotts

Curious about printmaking? This beginner-friendly workshop is a great place to start. Join experienced printmaker **Jackie Knotts** for an engaging **Introduction to Printmaking** workshop. In this hands-on session, Jackie will demonstrate a range of creative techniques for making **monoprints using A4 plastic sheets**, showing how simple processes can be used in a variety of expressive ways. All materials are provided—just come along ready to experiment and create.



Workshop Registration – Online ONLY

A friendly reminder – you **must** register and pay for workshops online – through our [website](#). This is important for several reasons, but mainly:

1. So we can contact you if the workshop is cancelled or anything else changes.
2. So we don't cancel a workshop due to insufficient numbers, because we didn't know you were intending to participate.

We know that change can be difficult and we really appreciate your help in getting our systems working smoothly for everyone.

You can find out more about the regular sessions that are run at our Art Rooms, as well as contact details for the coordinators of these sessions, on our website. Visit the What's on page and click the link for weekly sessions or click this [link](#).

Library News – Green Prescriptions

In the latest MINDFOOD magazine, (April 2026) there is an article by Dr Jo Skinner about ‘green prescriptions’ that doctors and psychologists are prescribing for people with depression, anxiety and other mental health issues. Walking in ‘blue spaces’ – beside oceans, rivers and lakes is beneficial to our emotional wellbeing. BlueHealth is a pan-European research initiative investigating links between blue spaces and health.

As artists, research indicates that our brains are structurally and functionally different from non-artists. Brain imaging shows increased neural matter and enhanced visual processing, spatial awareness and connectivity (cited by BBC). When artists walk in nature, they embrace the world of colour and nature in a different way, being able to manipulate images into artistic form.

Connecting with nature is good for the soul as well as inspiration for our art. So plan a ‘green weekend’ to de-stress from our busy lives and increase our overall wellbeing.

Happy walking.

Gay Carter – Librarian



Art in the Park

This is a great opportunity for members of the Tauranga Society of Artists to display and sell your art, mix with your fellow artists, and interact with the public – local, from other areas of New Zealand, and overseas. Set-up time is from 8am and end time is before 5pm. If you are interested in joining this activity, come along on one of the dates listed and have a look at how this happy little group set themselves up and present their artworks. There are lots of tips and tricks to this kind of display. Liz Cross and her Art in the Park cohorts will welcome you and share their Art in the Park experience. If Council makes any changes to the listed dates, you will be advised by group email.



ART in the PARK Dates (Saturdays)

April 4, 11, 18, 25

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

June 6, 13, 20, 27

NO ART IN THE PARK during
July, August, September

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

November 7, 14, 21, 28

December 5, 12, 19

April 2026	
Monday All Day	9.30am – 4.00pm
6, 20	Pastels, Convenor – Mary McTavish
13, 27	Drawing, Convenor – Carol Macintyre
Tuesday Morning	9.30am – 12.00pm
7, 14, 21, 28	Open Studio – any medium, Convenor – Raylene Munro
Tuesday Afternoon	12.30pm
7	Expo Meeting
21	Executive Committee
Tuesday Evening	6.30pm – 8.30pm
7, 14, 21, 28	Open Studio – any medium, Convenor – Lynne Dean
Wednesday Morning	9.30am – 12.00pm
1	Portraiture, Convenor – Sue Jones
8	Art Intro – Pastels 1 with June MacKenzie & Mary McTavish
22	Art Intro – Pastels 2 with Bridget Bambury
29	Art Intro – Pastels 3 with Ivan Lloyd
Wednesday Afternoon	12.30pm – 4.00pm
1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Open Studio – any medium, Convenor – Richard Fenn
Thursday Morning	9.30am – 12.00pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Oil Painting plus other medium, Convenor – Karen Pritchard
9	Programme Team meeting – Time and Venue TBA
Thursday Afternoon	1pm – 4.00pm
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Open Studio – Watercolour, Convenor – Deb Clarke
Friday Morning	9.30am – 12.00pm
3, 17	Life Drawing, Convenor – Tanya Bamford-King (Cost \$10)
Weekend	
Sat & Sun 25–26 (9.30am – 4pm)	Oils with Damien Kurth
Other	
Thurs–Sun, 16–19	Expo

2026 Calendar	
April Expo	14-19 April
AGM	Wednesday 3 June
Appraisal	Tuesday 28 July
Spring Competitions	Saturday 15 August
October Expo and Supreme Award	29 September – 4 October
Xmas Event	Saturday 5 December

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