TAURANGA SOCIETY OF ARTISTS

Newsletter

October 2026



From the President...

Hello everyone,

What an exciting time of year it is for the Tauranga Society of Artists! Spring is well underway, and there is plenty happening over the coming weeks to inspire, encourage and bring our creative community together.

Our Art Expo runs from 1–4 October, and I'm really looking forward to seeing the wonderful range of artwork on display. A special highlight is the presentation of the Jensen Supreme Art Award at the Gala opening. You should have received your invitation via email. I encourage everyone to come along, enjoy the awards night and exhibition, and support our artists. There is always something new to discover, and it is a wonderful opportunity to share our creativity.

We also have an exciting line-up of workshops coming up, with Bev Moore, Jayne Lydford, Lynne Dara and Shona Mackenzie, Wayne Vickers and Maxine Thompson. Workshops are a great way to learn something new, experiment with different techniques and, perhaps most importantly, spend time creating alongside other artists. I hope you'll take advantage of these opportunities and challenge yourself to try something a little different.

Another exciting return is Art in the Park, kicking off on Saturday 3 October. It's wonderful to see this event returning to our calendar after a winter break, giving us another opportunity to get out into the community, enjoy the beautiful surroundings and celebrate art in a relaxed and inspiring setting. Bookings are now available through our website, so be sure to secure your place.

There really is something for everyone over the next few weeks, and I hope you'll get involved, whether by attending a weekly session, joining a workshop, visiting the Expo, or simply coming along to enjoy the company of fellow artists.

Thank you to everyone who continues to contribute their time, enthusiasm and creativity to our Society. It is the energy and involvement of our members that makes the Tauranga Society of Artists such a vibrant and welcoming community.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Expo and at our upcoming events.

Happy creating!

– Erena Patterson | President | 021 610 660 | info@taurangaart.com

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

'Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time.'
– Thomas Merton

Click here to visit our website

COMMITTEE & CONTACTS

President: Erena Patterson 021 610 660
Vice President: Diana Roband
Secretary: Carol King
Treasurer: Marlis Resenterra
Newsletter Editor: Robyn Coulter

Executive members
Dominique Adcock
Linda Biddington
Deb Clarke
Ruth Kenyon-Slade
Jackie Knotts
Helen Ronayne

CONTACT EMAILS

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Treasurer: Marlis Resenterra
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Society Membership Fees

Annual $75, October – March $40
(changes to $100 in March 2027)

What's been happening?

Introducing ...

This month, we'd like to introduce a new member to our Competitions team.



Emma Fray
Competitions Team

Before joining the Tauranga Art Society, I wouldn't have called myself an artist. I was creative, sure, but 'artist' sounded like a rather grand title for someone who happily bounced between watercolour, pastels, pencil, sculpture and whatever else caught my attention!

I'm originally from the UK and moved to New Zealand in 2015, looking for a new chapter and a slightly sunnier life.

Then came 2021 — quite possibly the year I would happily delete from the calendar. I survived a brain aneurysm, lost my beloved grandmother, and went through a divorce, all in the same year. It was a lot to process, and surviving it made me take a long, hard look at what I actually wanted from my life.

Painting became my therapy during that time. I didn't have to explain how I was feeling or make sense of anything. I could just pick up a brush and put colour on a canvas. It gave my brain somewhere else to go when life felt overwhelming, and slowly, I started finding a little bit of myself again.

What began as therapy became something I genuinely loved. I started experimenting with acrylics, playing with colour and vibrancy, and eventually found myself brave enough to join the Tauranga Art Society.

I've since thrown myself into both painting and helping with Society events. I'm learning, creating, meeting other artists and, most importantly, enjoying the journey.

I suppose surviving 2021 taught me not to keep putting things off – and saying yes to art is one of the best things that came out of it.

Membership



We now have 360 members. The subscription to become a member has now reduced from $75 to $40 as we are half through our membership year.

This month we welcome eight new members to TSA. Our new members are Holly Partridge, Kayrene Trask, Grace Meadowcroft, Robyn Ax, Irene Eilers, Hana Akselrod, Karilyn Brown and Marie Baggstrom.

– **Diana Roband, Membership Coordinator**

Social Media

Just a reminder that our **Tauranga Society of Artists Members Group** page is a private group for TSA members only and members cannot invite non-members to join. I would encourage all members to join our Facebook group as it is a great place to share info and to find out what is happening. Here's a link: Tauranga Society of Artists Members Group | Facebook

We are very grateful that Erena Patterson picked up the Social Media role to get us through our busy Expo campaign. This isn't sustainable long term as Erena is already the president and the website coordinator, so we are looking for a member willing to take on this important role after Expo. Please refer to the advert late in this newsletter and contact us if you can help. Robyn Coulter and Robin Purllant's support has been invaluable in creating posters, signage, templates, etc. for social media.

– **Diana Roband**

What's been happening?

Thank you for your Feedback

A big thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our recent member survey. We received a fantastic response, with members sharing lots of helpful ideas about workshops, Art Room sessions and the types of creative opportunities you'd like to see at TSA.

The feedback showed strong interest in a wide range of subjects, along with your preferences around workshop days and times. You also shared some great ideas for exploring new techniques, media and ways to develop your art practice, as well as specific artists that you'd love to learn from.

We're very grateful for your thoughtful suggestions and enthusiasm. The Programme Team will be using your feedback as we plan for the year ahead, and we look forward to bringing you a programme that reflects the interests of our members. Thank you for helping shape the future of TSA!



Congratulations to our 2026 Climate Canvas Art Competition Winners!

A huge congratulations to three of our Tauranga Art Society members who were recognised in this year's **Climate Canvas 2026** competition, themed **'Precious Resources'.**

We're especially proud of **Ratree Sawat**, whose work *Taonga* took out **First Place**. The judges described the piece as capturing the idea of precious resources and keeping them safe within the box.







Bronwyn Copeland was awarded **Third Place** for *Co-existence*, a painstakingly constructed work made entirely from recycled elements, reflecting on consumption and waste.

And congratulations to **Janet Fox**, whose work *Kaitiakitanga* received a **Highly Commended** award. Her piece was praised for its beautiful composition of found and carefully recycled materials, combined with subtle and thoughtful mark-making.

It's wonderful to see our members receiving recognition for their creativity and thoughtful approach to such an important theme. **Congratulations Ratree, Bronwyn and Janet – what a fantastic achievement!**

The full Climate Canvas exhibition can be viewed at The Carlton Gallery in Katikati from 5–31 October, with free entry.

Review of Portrait of a Bird – Watercolour Workshop with Min Kim

Min Kim's two-day watercolour workshop, held at the Lyceum Club (on Mon 31 Aug and Tues 1 Sept), was inspiring and informative. Min generously shared her personal approach to painting, encouraging us to slow down, simplify and trust our bodies. She spent considerable time explaining and demonstrating these concepts.

Over the two days, we explored brush control, colour, tone, reflected light and paint consistency. Min described three consistencies as tea, coffee and butter — tea for light, transparent passages, coffee for stronger colour and form, and butter for the deepest accents and details. Her demonstrations showed how much expression can be achieved with one confident brushstroke and how daily practice helps movement become instinctive.





Min paints with her paper almost vertical on an easel, which was a new experience for most of us. A highlight was learning how she paints birds and treats the eye like a gemstone, using reflected colour and light to give it life and character. She also encouraged us to embrace blooms, backruns and unexpected marks rather than overworking them.





Min encouraged us not to criticise ourselves, but to see practice as part of the process. I left feeling energised and keen to bring greater freedom, confidence and freshness into my own watercolour painting.

– **Deb Clarke**





Intro Art – Acrylics with Damien Kurth







The acrylics workshops with Damien Kurth, held over three Wednesday mornings, brought together a group of members eager to learn about applying acrylics mixed with a painting medium. Each day, after demonstrations on how to get started, the room fell quiet, interrupted only by Damien's teaching, helpful guidance and the occasional reminder to step away, move around and return with a fresh perspective.

We built up layers over a foundation using a limited palette, checking and adjusting shapes, proportions and tones as we gradually added more colour to the palette. Working on the same image over three sessions provided an opportunity to explore new territory for those of us who generally work *alla prima*.

My takeaways are:

- It is always worthwhile to step outside one's own comfort zone.
- 'There are no mistakes.' – Damien
- If a particular part doesn't work, leave it for now and focus on another area; it may have an effect on the unresolved part.
- How much an unpainted edge can distract from the image.
- How the tone of the background impacts the tones in the image.
- Warm and cool colours? I have gained some understanding but definitely have to do more observing and learning!

Thank you, TSA, for the Wednesday morning introductory workshops, and thank you, Damien, for your generous sharing!
– **Dominique Adcock**







Life Drawing with Damien Kurth on Saturday 19 September

The recent life drawing workshop at the TSA Art Room proved to be an engaging and practical session for artists of all experience levels. Designed for both beginners and seasoned drawers, the Saturday event offered a structured, supportive space to practice observational skills.

Throughout the day, participants worked with experienced life models, moving from quick observational warm-up sketches to longer, more sustained poses. Damien led the session effectively, offering clear technique demonstrations, practical guidance, and individual feedback. His tailored mentoring helped attendees build confidence and refine their drawing techniques over the course of the workshop.





Review of Tuesday Open Studio Session

I popped along to the Open Studio session last Tuesday morning (9:30 – 12 pm) and was made to feel very welcome by Raylene and Keith from the moment I arrived.

The group meets every Tuesday morning (9:30 – 12 pm), providing a relaxed and friendly space to get stuck into some art and enjoy the company of other creatives.

Artists were painting in a variety of media, while I chose to spend my time drawing. It was lovely to see everyone working on their own projects and to have the freedom to simply bring along whatever I wanted to work on.





The atmosphere was warm, relaxed and very friendly, with plenty of conversation and a few laughs along the way. It was a great way to spend a Tuesday morning, and I really enjoyed meeting the group and being part of the session.

If you're looking for some company while you paint, the Tuesday morning Open Studio is definitely worth checking out.

– **Robyn Coulter**





Jensen Supreme Award and Art Expo

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will be in set-up mode for our Expo. This time we have 97 artists exhibiting 600+ artworks, 12 artists for cards and 12 artists for fine art prints. We have 15 first-time exhibitors, many of whom attended the Expo Info Session that we held at the Art Room a couple of weeks ago.

Please read the emails that we have sent you because they contain important information. There are two rosters – one for the two set-up days, pack-down and the gala. Then another one that covers the four open days. Artists exhibiting and the additional members who have offered to help will have received emails regarding their duties and start/finish times.

Please arrive on time and be respectful of the supervisors and team leaders, whose job is not always the easiest. Expo wouldn't be possible without all of our helpers being part of our **TEAM** – **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore.

Our 30 finalists in the Jensen Supreme Award will be displaying their entries on their own screen with their other artworks, and they will have a green rosette beside them to identify that they have been selected from the 50+ entries we received. Our three preselection judges commented on the quality of all of the entries. I am looking forward to seeing the artworks and hearing which artwork is the winner from our main judge, Duane Moyle. I hope that you can join us at our Gala at 6 pm on 30 September in the gym at TBC to share this special event.





The Tauranga Art Show

has announced their dates for 2027 and, unfortunately, they are the weekend before our September/October Expo. We have had discussions with them but, like us, they have no flexibility to change their dates. I have contacted all of our members who exhibited in this year's Tauranga Art Show to get feedback on the impact they foresee having the two exhibitions only three days apart, so that we can understand the logistics for our artists who want to exhibit in both exhibitions. If anyone else would like to share their thoughts about this matter, please email me.

– Diana Roband, Exhibition Coordinator

Dominique Adcock is an emerging artist whose practice is tactile, explorative, intuitive, and playful, drawing on inspirations sparked by her immediate natural and social surroundings and fragments of memory. She is drawn to noticing and including the overlooked, the imperfect, the de-integrating and the disregarded.

Dominique continuously expands her craftsmanship and search for meaning by observing and experimenting, and by connecting with practising contemporary artists. She works with assemblage and a variety of media on a range of substrates and plays with size and scale. Dominique appreciates moments of irritation and of humour resulting from combining unrelated pieces, materials or techniques, and enjoys observing the births of 'Oddities' whose parts may have a history, yet in their new incarnation may not have a particular use or conformed aesthetic appeal.

Dominique is tangata tiriti and works from her garden studio in Te Puke, New Zealand.

She has exhibited at Tauranga Society of Artists, Matter Gallery, The Incubator and sells through The Artist Window at The Incubator, Tauranga.







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

Help Needed

Volunteer needed

Are you passionate about storytelling, community, and the arts? We are looking for someone to help grow and maintain our online presence – especially on Facebook and Instagram.

This role is perfect for someone who enjoys sparking conversation, sharing creative content, and keeping up with trends and events that would interest our members. You'll be creating and posting content around 2–3 times per week, with a bit of extra activity in the lead-up to our twice-yearly expos.

If you're creative, organised, and love connecting people through art, we'd love to hear from you! If you think you can help, please contact the TSA Secretary at admin@taurangaart.com.



Mixed Media Workshop with Lynne Dara
Gel Printing and Collage

10 October
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Take your gel printing beyond the basics and discover the creative possibilities of layered prints and collage.

Following on from Lynne Dara's two Intro Art Gel Plate workshops, this session takes gel printing a step further, exploring how to create beautiful, layered papers using stencils and a variety of mark-making techniques. In the afternoon, Lynne will share her approach to using these papers to create a collaged picture, with each participant taking home a unique piece of artwork they have created themselves.

Lynnes's Intro Art workshop booked up quickly so don't delay.

Cost is $80 for the day with a maximum of 16 participants.



Wednesday Morning Intro Art
Monochromatic Watercolours with Jayne Lydford

14 October
9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Discover how much you can achieve with just one pigment!
Join Jayne for a watercolour session exploring the beauty of monochromatic painting. Participants will learn how to mix a single pigment to achieve a range of tonal values and how to apply paint using wet-on-wet, wet-on-dry and dry-brushing techniques.

Jayne will demonstrate her methods and help participants create a simplified painting of her lone shell on a beach, while also exploring how to identify and correct flaws in perspective and tonal values – because we all make mistakes!

Cost is $30 for the morning session with a maximum of 12 participants.





Wednesday Morning Intro Art
Using Pen & Wash for Portraits with Bev Moore

28 October
9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Discover how a simple pen drawing can be transformed with the addition of watercolour and liquid charcoal in this relaxed, hands-on workshop with Bev.

Using fine permanent pens as a starting point, you'll explore how washes of watercolour and liquid charcoal can introduce tone, depth and atmosphere to your portraits, while still allowing the freshness and character of the line to shine through.

This workshop is suitable for intermediate artists and is a great opportunity to explore portraiture in a slightly different way, experiment with materials and discover how a few simple techniques can bring your drawings to life.

Cost is $30 for the morning session with a maximum of 12 participants.

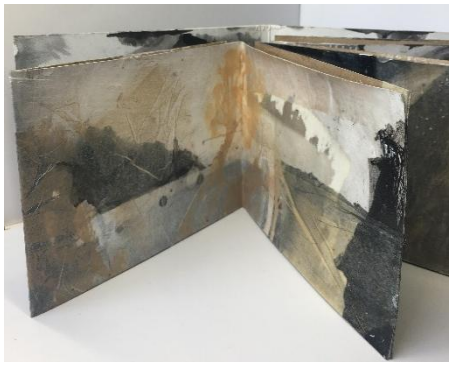


Find out more and register via our website at https://www.taurangaart.com/workshops

Mixed Media Workshop 1 with Shona Mackenzie

Sat and Sun, 17 & 18 October 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Time to Break Free



In this weekend workshop, Shona will share some of her foundational practices and a range of techniques, including creating your own concertina sketchbook and filling it intuitively with mixed media. Through exploration and discovery, participants will learn how to notice and gather information to help develop their own unique artistic voice. Suitable for beginners through to more experienced artists wanting to loosen things up.

Cost is $320 for the weekend with a maximum of 14 participants.

Mixed Media Workshop 2 with Shona Mackenzie

Fri, Sat and Sun, 23, 24 & 25 October 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Masterclass: Working in a Series



Shona's three-day masterclass offers an opportunity for those ready to take their mixed media practice further, exploring the creative possibilities of working in a series and diving deeper into her intuitive approach to abstraction. Participants will develop a series of three mixed media paintings, using knowledge and techniques from previous workshops while learning ways to trick the brain, disrupt muscle memory and develop their own artistic voice. Suitable for those who have attended *Time to Break Free* or other previous workshops with Shona, as long as they remember some of the basics!

Cost is $450 for three days with a maximum of 14 participants

Find out more and register for these workshops via our website at https://www.taurangaart.com/workshops

Oil Painting Workshop with Wayne Vickers

Consecutive Fridays, 13 and 20 November
9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Painting the New Zealand Landscape in Oils

The workshop covers the fundamentals of oil painting, including composition, drawing and blocking in, brush techniques, colour mixing, values and paint handling. Wayne will also explore how light interacts with natural forms such as mountains, skies, bush and water, helping participants achieve greater depth, realism and confidence in their work.



Participants will work **step-by-step through an achievable landscape painting**, with the aim of taking home a finished piece that serves as an illustrated record of the techniques and skills covered throughout the workshop.

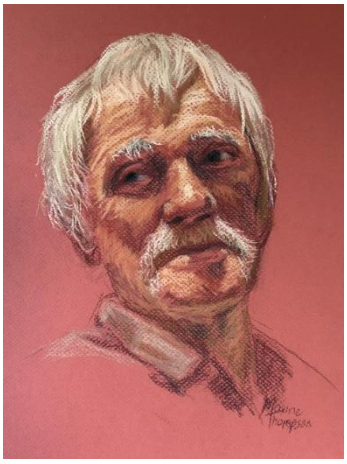
Cost is $520 for both sessions and is limited to 8 participants.

Find out more and register for these workshops via our website at https://www.taurangaart.com/workshops

Pastel Portrait Workshop with Maxine Thompson

Sat and Sun, 28 & 29 November
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

BRING YOUR PORTRAITS TO LIFE IN PASTEL



Join Maxine Thompson for a hands-on workshop exploring the wonderful possibilities of pastel portraiture.

Maxine will demonstrate techniques and lead exercises exploring **facial expressions, character and personality in portraiture**. You'll also learn about developing skin tones, creating depth and bringing your subject to life, while gaining insights and tips from an experienced pastel artist.

Cost is $185 for the weekend with a maximum of 13 participants

Find out more and register for these workshops via our website at https://www.taurangaart.com/workshops

Library News – Spot the Fake



Hi Everyone

I read an interesting article in *Artists Palette Magazine* (No. 23) about DNA encryption of paintings.

Currently, authentication of paintings uses a 'three-legged stool' approach, where expert analysis of brushstrokes, signatures, canvas and materials is used, along with the paper trail, forensic analysis and provenance.

Now, a unique genetic code of the artist can be blended into paint or incorporated into secure tags hidden on the canvas to help prevent art forgery and prove that a piece is authentic. Synthetic companies such as 'Tagmart' can create microscopic barcodes or invisible adhesive tags that can track the provenance of a canvas and help combat memorabilia fraud.

Ancient DNA has been found in cave art pigments from extinct civilisations. Perhaps they used saliva to mix the clay? But before you go licking your paintings, a cheek swab is used to create the DNA profile.

Art fraud is big business, and one of the most infamous cases involved Hans Van Meegeren, who forged incredibly accurate paintings in the style of Johannes Vermeer, fooling art experts. Picasso and Dalí are among the most forged and faked artists in history.

This groundbreaking new method of DNA identification could be beneficial for collectors and art galleries, helping to ensure the authenticity of works by famous contemporary artists.

– **Gay Carter, Librarian**

Art in the Park – Saturdays (Coronation Park)

Looking for a relaxed way to exhibit and sell your artwork? **Art in the Park** is a wonderful opportunity for Tauranga Society of Artists members to showcase their work, meet fellow artists, and chat with visitors from Tauranga, around New Zealand, and overseas.

Artists set up from **8.00 am**, with the day finishing before **5.00 pm**. Whether you're an experienced exhibitor or thinking of giving it a go for the first time, we'd love to welcome you. Why not come along on one of the advertised dates to see how our friendly Art in the Park group presents their work? Liz Cross and her fellow exhibitors are always happy to share their experience, along with plenty of practical tips and ideas for displaying artwork outdoors.

2026	
October	3, 17, 24
November	7, 14, 28
December	5, 19
2027	
January	2, 16, 30

Please note that Tauranga City Council now charges a fee for artists exhibiting at Art in the Park. Details and a link for payment are available on our website https://www.taurangaart.com/what's-on**.**

Should Tauranga City Council make any changes to the scheduled dates, members will be notified by group email.







October 2026	
Monday All Day	**9.30am – 4.00pm**
5, 19	**Pastels,** Convenor – Mary McTavish
12, 26	**Drawing,** Convenor – Carol Macintyre
Tuesday Morning	**9.30am – 12.00pm**
6, 13, 20, 27	**Open Studio – any medium,** Convenor – Raylene Munro
Tuesday Afternoon	**12.30pm**
13	Exhibition Team
20	Executive Committee
Tuesday Evening	**6.30pm – 8.30pm**
6, 13, 20, 27	**Open Studio – any medium,** Convenor – Lynne Dean
Wednesday Morning	**9.30am – 12.00pm**
7	**Portraiture,** Convenor – Sue Jones ($5 fee to cover model)
14	**Intro Art – Watercolour Monochrome** with Jayne Lydford
28	**Intro Art – Watercolour & Pen** with Bev Moore
Wednesday Afternoon	**12.30pm – 4.00pm**
7, 14, 21, 28	**Open Studio – any medium,** Convenor – Richard Fenn
Thursday Morning	**9.30am – 12.00pm**
1, 8, 15, 22, 29	**Oil Painting plus other medium,** Convenor – Karen Pritchard
8	11 am Programme Team meeting – offsite
Thursday Afternoon	**1pm – 4.00pm**
1, 8, 15, 22, 29	**Open Studio – Watercolour,** Convenor – Deb Clarke
Friday Morning	**9.30am – 12.00pm**
2, 16	**Life Drawing,** Convenor – Tanya Bamford-King (Cost $10)
Other/Weekend	
Thurs–Sun, 1–4 Oct 9 am – 5 pm, Sun 9 – 3 pm	**Jensen Supreme Art Award and Expo**
Saturday, 10 Oct 9 am – 4 pm	**Mixed Media Workshop** with Lynne Dara Cost $80 for the day
Sat–Sun, 17–18 Oct 10 am – 4 pm	**Mixed Workshop – Time to Break Free** with Shona Mackenzie Cost $320 for two days
Fri, Sat, Sun, 23–25 Oct 10 am – 4 pm	**Mixed Workshop – Masterclass** with Shona Mackenzie Cost $450 for three days

Click HERE to go to the online programme (scroll down to find)

November 2026	
Monday All Day	**9.30am – 4.00pm**
2, 16	**Pastels**, Convenor – Mary McTavish
9, 23, 30	**Drawing**, Convenor – Carol Macintyre
Tuesday Morning	**9.30am – 12.00pm**
3, 10, 17, 24	**Open Studio – any medium**, Convenor – Raylene Munro
Tuesday Afternoon	**12.30pm**
17	Executive
Tuesday Evening	**6.30pm – 8.30pm**
3, 10, 17, 24	**Open Studio – any medium**, Convenor – Lynne Dean
Wednesday Morning	**9.30am – 12.00pm**
4	**Portraiture**, Convenor – Sue Jones ($5 fee to cover model)
18	**Intro Art – Sketchbook making** with Dominique Adcock (Details will be advised in the mid-month email)
Wednesday Afternoon	**12.30pm – 4.00pm**
4, 11, 18, 25	**Open Studio – any medium**, Convenor – Richard Fenn
Thursday Morning	**9.30am – 12.00pm**
5, 12, 19, 26	**Oil Painting plus other medium**, Convenor – Karen Pritchard
12	11 am Programme Team meeting – offsite
Thursday Afternoon	**1pm – 4.00pm**
5, 12, 19, 26	**Open Studio – Watercolour**, Convenor – Deb Clarke
Friday	**9.30am – 12.00pm**
6	**Life Drawing**, Convenor – Tanya Bamford-King (Cost $10)
13, 20 (9:30 – 4: 30)	**Oil Painting NZ Landscapes –** Wayne Vickers
Weekend	**9.00am – 4.00pm**
Sat & Sun, 28–29	**Soft Pastel Portraits** with Maxine Thompson
Other	
Thurs–Sun, 19-22	Art & Garden Festival – check their website Bay of Plenty Garden & Art Festival

2026 Calendar	
October Expo and Supreme Award	29 September – 4 October
Xmas Event	Saturday 5 December
2027 Calendar	
April Expo	15–18 April
October Expo	30 September–3 October

