TAURANGA SOCIETY OF ARTISTS

Newsletter

November 2026



From the President...

Hello everyone,

Reflection and celebration are at the heart of this month's update. With the Expo now successfully behind us, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our exhibition team and the many volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. From the opening Gala night to the fabulous art on display and the energy of the live art, it was a fabulous celebration of our community's talent.

It is an honour to congratulate our Supreme Winner, Shona Mackenzie, our Runner-Up, Bernadette Ballantyne, and our five Merit Award winners: Robyn Pickett, Jenny Moed-Korpela, Ali Thomas, Lynne Dara, and Lynette Fisher. Your dedication inspires us all.

Looking ahead, our programme team has reached out via email regarding the wonderful ideas you shared in our recent member survey. We would love to hear your thoughts on these initiatives to ensure we continue to support and inspire as many members as possible. For more information, see the article on page 2.

Finally, please check the website for our upcoming workshop lineup, and make sure to lock in our festive Christmas function on 5 December.

Wishing you a wonderful, creative month in the sunshine.

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

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

'The world always seems brighter when you've just made something that wasn't there before.' – Neil Gaiman



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

Expo: expo@taurangaart.com

Secretary: Carol King
admin@taurangaart.com

Membership: Diana Roband
membership@taurangaart.com

Workshops/Tutorials: Deb Clarke
tutorials@taurangaart.com

Treasurer: Marlis Resenterra
treasurertgaartsoc@gmail.com

Social Media:
taurangaartsocialmedia@gmail.com

Website: Erena Patterson
info@taurangaart.com

Society Membership Fees

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

What's been happening?

Follow Up to Member Survey – Expressions of Interest



Based on your feedback in our recent member survey, we're keen to explore a few ideas and would love to hear from anyone who might be interested in taking part.

As a member, you should have received an email recently asking whether you would be interested in any of the following:

1. Mixed media sessions
We're looking at holding a regular mixed media session on the second and fourth Friday of each month. Would you be interested?

2. An additional evening session
We're considering a second regular evening session alongside our Tuesday session. Let us know if you're interested, which evening would suit you best, and what times would work for you.

3. Regular plein air sessions
We'd love to get a group together for regular outdoor painting and drawing sessions, so please let us know if you're keen.

If you haven't already, please email us at tutorials@taurangaart.com and let us know if any of these options interest you. There's no commitment at this stage – we're simply keen to gauge interest and bring people together.

Thanks for helping us shape more creative opportunities at TSA. We look forward to hearing from you!

Find Out More About Our Regular Art Sessions

Following feedback from our recent survey, we've added more information to our website about the different regular sessions offered by the society.

We understand that new members, or those thinking of joining us, may not be sure what each session involves or which one might suit them best. You can now find out more about our various groups, what to expect, and how they work. Simply visit the **What's On** page on our website, scroll down to the WEEKLY SESSION INFORMATION and click each link to read about the session.

We hope this helps you find the right group for you and encourages you to come along and enjoy creating art with us.

Membership



The growth in membership has been phenomenal this month with lots of people coming to Expo and seeing the quality of our artworks, the Jensen Supreme Award, the Live Art and chatting to our friendly members. We have approved 19 applications for membership from Patrick Lally, Rachael Hayton, Elmien Butler, Vanessa Pollen, Kal Roberts, Beverley Waterston, Elizabeth McLeod, Millie Freeman, Merill Simmons-Hansen, J-Marie Beere, Di Ruteledge, Lindie Williams, Anny de Groot, Robyn Angell-Morice, Pixie Woods, Mandy Williams, Maira Fantoni, Judy Thorne and Anja Corbett.

This now gives us 379 members

– Diana Roband, Membership Coordinator

This time, we had 97 artists who exhibited 613 artworks, and we sold 110, with the average price being $360. In addition, we had 12 Fine Art Print sellers and 12 card sellers. There were 15 first-time exhibitors.

Everything ran like clockwork, and I am thrilled with the way in which the Expo Team managed it. We were assisted by all the exhibitors, along with 28 members who were not exhibiting and five spouses who pitched in to help as well.

The artworks were of an excellent standard, and it was great to see that the artists' screens were looking more cohesive this time. We still have an issue with some screens having too much art on them, leaving hardly any room for labels. Please keep in mind the old saying, 'less is more', when you are planning your next Expo entry.

I would like to thank Duane Moyle and the three preselection judges for the time they spent judging the Jensen Supreme Award. The results are:

Winner – Shona Mackenzie

Runner Up – Bernadette Ballantyne

Merits – Jenny Moed-Korpela, Ali Thomas, Lynette Fisher, Robyn Pickett, Lynne Dara

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Winner – Shona Mackenzie



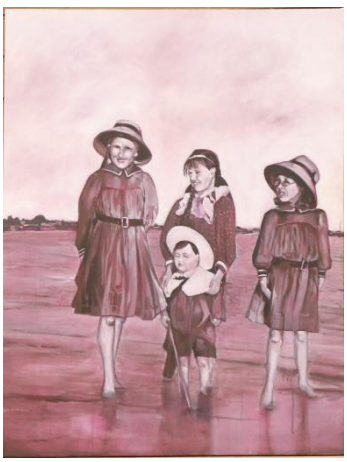
Runner Up – Bernadette Ballantyne



Merit – Jenny Moed-Korpela



Merit – Ali Thomas (and judge, Duane Moyle)



Merit – Lynette Fisher



Merit – Robyn Pickett



Merit – Lynne Dara

I huge thankyou to the Jensen family for their ongoing sponsorship of the Supreme Award. It is much appreciated.

This Expo, we made a change to the way in which the People's Choice votes were counted. We decided that the winners would be the ***Artist*** *with the most votes* and the ***Artwork*** *with the most votes*. The results are:

Artist with the most votes:

1st – Bernadette Ballantyne
2nd – Helen Hunkin
3rd – Jenny Moed-Korpela
4th – Irina Gronous

Artwork with the most votes:

1st – Bernadette Ballantyne, *After the Rain*
2nd – John Horton, *Caswell Sound Fiordland*
3rd – Jenny Moed-Korpela, *Yellow Nectar*
4th – Helen Hunkin, *Back Country Hut*

People's Choice Award
Sponsored by
Gordon Harris
THE ART & GRAPHIC STORE

The winners received a $250 Gordon Harris voucher. A big thank you to Gordon Harris for its ongoing sponsorship.

The artwork kindly donated by Lynne Dean for the lucky voter was won by Euan Rutherford.

Sponsorship is an important part of our Expo, and we are very grateful for the sponsors we have. However, it is time to get a few more. If you would like to be a sponsor, or you have business contacts who would be keen to sponsor us, please let us know as soon as possible.



People's Choice – Bernadette Ballantyne

paperplus BETHLEHEM & PAPAMOA
Palmers BETHLEHEM
NEW WORLD Brookfield
DIGIPRINT Your Local Copying and Print Solution
FARMER AUTOVILLAGE
HARRISON FRAMES
BAKEWELL BURNERS
LANDMARK HOMES
HEARTLAND BANK

We are very aware of the clash of dates for our September/October Expo and Supreme Award for 2027, and we are actively exploring our options. We hope to have something positive to announce shortly.

In the meantime, the Exhibition Team is taking a well-earned break after a sterling effort this year. Our next meeting will be in January 2027. Happy creating!

Diana Roband – Exhibition Coordinator



What's been happening?

Navigating Reference Photos, Royalty-Free Images, and AI in Art

With so many wonderful photographs freely available online, it's worth taking a moment to understand what 'royalty-free' actually means for artists.

Websites such as Pixabay offer images that can be downloaded, copied and adapted under their licence terms. However, royalty-free does not mean copyright-free, nor does it mean that the photograph becomes your own work. Pixabay's current licence specifically allows images to be modified and incorporated into new creative works, but it also prohibits using content in a misleading or deceptive way, including giving the impression that the original content was created by you.

In New Zealand, copyright arises automatically in original works, including photographs under the New Zealand Copyright Act 1994. The Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand (IPONZ) advises that permission or a suitable licence is needed when using someone else's copyright work beyond the scope of the licence.

For artists, the important distinction is between using a photograph as inspiration or reference and presenting a substantially copied image as an entirely original work. A licence that permits you to use or adapt a photograph does not necessarily mean that an artwork based closely on that photograph should be entered into an art competition or exhibition as though the underlying image was entirely your own creation.

It is worth checking the rules of each competition or exhibition. Requirements about original work, reference material and copyright can vary, and an artist may be asked to confirm that their work meets those requirements.

So, before entering a painting based closely on an online photograph, it's a good idea to check both the image's licence/source and the competition or exhibition conditions. When in doubt, crediting the original photographer and being transparent about the reference used is a sensible approach – and, importantly, it helps us all respect the creative work of fellow artists.

A Note on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Reference Material

Please note that our Executive Committee is currently developing a formal policy regarding Artificial Intelligence (AI) in art. We want to ensure our guidelines are clear, thoughtful, and well-considered for our membership. We will share the finalised and approved AI policy with everyone as soon as that process is complete.



Member's Artwork Featured



TSA member Lynette Fisher has created a beautiful commissioned acrylic painting, *Welcome Home Multiflora*, for Tauranga's new Te Ao Mārama Library and Community Hub at He Puna Manawa on Willow Street.

The new library is more than a place to borrow books. It is designed as a welcoming community space where people can meet, learn, explore their creativity and take part in a wide range of activities. Its community hub provides flexible space for workshops, classes, performances, meetings and celebrations, bringing people together in the heart of Tauranga.

Lynette's striking 1.6-metre painting features a circle of more than 100 colourful flowers, each representing a culture or country connected to Tauranga. She worked with people from diverse cultural backgrounds to discover which flowers held special meaning for them. The result is a vibrant celebration of the many cultures that make Tauranga home, and a warm welcome to everyone who visits.

It is wonderful to see one of our own members' artistic talents contributing to such an important community space.

Curious to see Lynette's beautiful artwork and discover the inspiration and stories behind it? Read the full SunLive article for a closer look at this special project.

Read the full story here on SunLive

Review of Thursday Morning – Oil plus Open Studio Session

2026 has been a very interesting and successful year for the Thursday morning oil painting group. We have gained new interesting and talented newcomers. As well as new ways to support new members in this medium.

The discussions have ranged from products to new or old techniques. All this has resulted in success for many members at the competitions and Expos.

We always welcome new members into our group even if we need to squeeze up a bit.

Karen Pritchard, Thursday morning Convenor







Review of Gel Plate and Collage Workshop with Lynne Dara

Lynne's latest gelli-printing workshop was a fabulous, fun-filled follow-up to her earlier intro sessions.



The morning kicked off with clear step-by-step demos, where she taught us two distinct layering techniques that created completely different visual effects. Because gelli-printing delivers such instant, unpredictable results, everyone was immediately curious and eager to experiment. Lynne generously shared her knowledge and ideas, offering encouragement and ample time to experiment with colour, texture, stencils, and layered prints.

In the afternoon, we used our morning creations to dive into collaging. While nobody finished a complete artwork on the day, we all headed home with a stack of great pieces and plenty of inspiration to keep working on.

Lynne is an excellent tutor – approachable, encouraging and supportive. She gave us plenty of time to work independently, while being on hand whenever anyone needed help. With a fun group, plenty of laughs and a great atmosphere, it was a brilliant day out.

Robyn Coulter and Bronni Anstis











Intro Art – Monochromatic Watercolour with Jayne Lydford



I attended Jayne's Intro Art session on 14 October, along with 12 others. Jayne's immaculate and detailed preparation, and her love of teaching, were apparent. A lively tutor, she and Deb Clarke, her co-facilitator, made a great team, demonstrating and guiding us throughout.

We began with a guided meditative watercolour exercise, followed by a tonal value scale exercise, painting 10 squares graduating from dark to light, using paint from a creamy-coffee to a tea-like consistency.



Jayne then demonstrated a monochrome seascape featuring a lone shell. Using the Lamp Black or Sepia pigment provided, we painted our own masterpieces. Jayne and Deb made sure we had everything we needed and, in true Jayne style, Jayne emailed a lovely summary of what we had done, along with follow-up advice for those who had not finished their painting on the day.

In addition to learning about values, I personally found Jayne's reference to the rule of thirds in composition most useful.

Jayne's orange cake was a bonus at morning tea and was enjoyed by all.

Thank you, Jayne and Deb. The morning was such fun!

– Colleen Kendrick











Intro Art – Watercolour & Pen Portraits with Bev Moore

I was delighted to attend Bev's Intro Art Pen & Wash workshop on 28 October as a model and have the chance to experience her teaching from a different perspective.

Bev had provided all the equipment needed, including pens, paper and ink, so everyone could get straight into the activities. She began by introducing participants to pen and wash techniques using photos she had supplied of different parts of a face, and they were all busy at work when I arrived. Bev then demonstrated her approach to live drawing by drawing two models, each from a different perspective, explaining her technique as she worked.

Participants then had the opportunity to try the techniques for themselves, drawing and painting one of three different models. Having three models meant everyone could get close enough to observe their subject carefully. Bev circulated around the room, offering help and suggestions as they worked.

I was impressed by the portraits the participants produced and how they used Bev's techniques in their own work.

It was an informative and enjoyable morning, and I'm sure the participants appreciated Bev's demonstrations and helpful guidance.

– Robyn Coulter







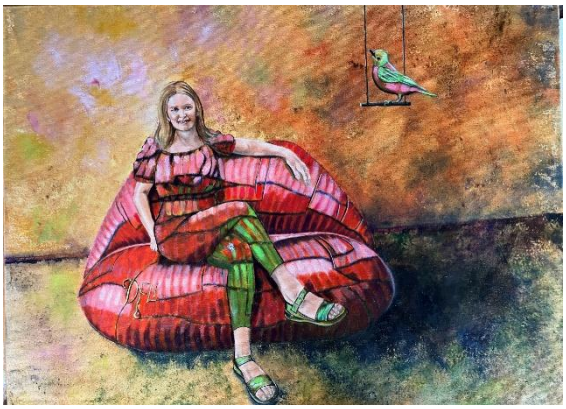




What's Coming Up?



Artist of the Month — November – Ali Thomas



I enjoy art so much that I gave up my nursing career to do art full time (not a hard decision). In my happy place, I enjoy doing all sorts of art. My best paintings seem to be in oils, but I also do acrylic, watercolour, resin and mixed media. After spending months doing a painting or portrait, I often like to throw paint at a canvas to loosen up a bit, usually in acrylic. I enjoy oil portraits with the subject in various costumes and settings, and am drawn to art with people in it. I also do loose oils, loose acrylics, loose and more serious watercolours, and crazy resin pictures which have a mind of their own. I love to experiment using all sorts of different materials, subjects, media and styles, often incorporating new media into the current painting at the time.

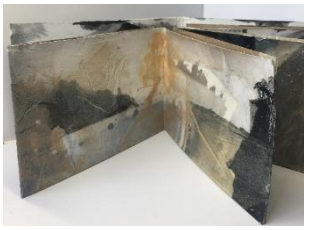
I am influenced by lots of art on social media and the world around me. I love to express my strong emotions on canvas, in an expressionist style, throwing whatever I have out there to reflect how I am feeling at the time. I have always been creative.

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

Mixed Media Workshop 1 with Shona Mackenzie

Sat and Sun, 7 – 8 November
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.

Registrations for this workshop have closed.

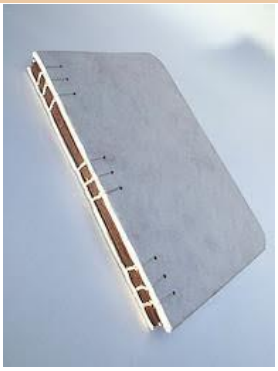
Mixed Media Masterclass: Working in a Series with Shona Mackenzie

This workshop, which was to have been held over Labour weekend, has been postponed until 2027.

Dates to be confirmed. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Intro Art – Bookbinding with Dominique (Note the earlier start time)

18 November
9:00 am – 12:00 pm



Learn how to bind your own A5 prototype journal in this hands-on workshop. Using a simple, ancient technique (Coptic stitching) that requires no glue, you'll create a beautiful, practical book ready to make your own.

An art journal can be so much more than a sketchbook. It's a place to collect inspiration, experiment with colour and techniques, record memories, jot down ideas or simply enjoy some creative play.

This workshop offers an opportunity to create a journal that reflects your own interests and creativity. All tools and materials are provided, with the option to bring your own preferred paper.

Find out more and register 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.

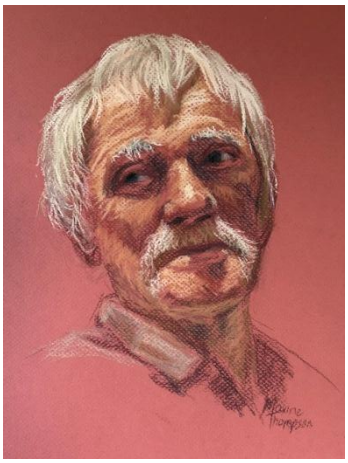
Cost is $520 for both sessions and is limited to 8 participants.

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

Pastel News

My sincere apologies for not presenting a report in recent editions of our newsletter. While we have been away, I have realised how important this opportunity is to keep in touch with you all, and what a wonderful facility this newsletter is.

The pastel artists have been very privileged to have been asked to participate in the Matua Life picture-hanging programme over the last few months. We haven't had any sales that I know of, but it has been an interesting exercise in preparing our works ready to hang, delivering them, collecting them and having them seen by the residents of Matua Life village.

Our art is what keeps us together, yet it is our community of artists that really holds us together. Our community has grown amazingly fast over the last couple of years, with names on the board that I have seen but whose owners I have not yet met, to say hello to or even to learn about their art styles.

We, as a pastel community, should also be more determined to display our art. I understand there were not many pastel pieces on display at the Expo, and I feel that everyone else has missed out on seeing the wonderful creations our pastel artists produce.

To that end, it has been mooted that we all endeavour to put together either a landscape or a seascape, finished and ready to hang at our next Autumn Competitions Day, to really demonstrate what we can achieve as an artistic community. It was suggested that we enter either the Landscape or Seascape categories, so that as many of us as possible can enter a piece — not to compete with each other, but to experience the thrill of hanging our work, being amongst our peers and letting our work be seen by others within TSA, without really competing.

We are so looking forward to Maxine Thompson's workshop over the weekend of 28/29 November, so do get your name down for that as soon as possible. Maxine will be demonstrating portraits, providing a great opportunity to get to grips with a topic that not all of us are comfortable tackling, but are always keen to learn more about.

Happy pastelling! **Mary McTavish, Pastel Convenor, PANZ Rep Bay of Plenty**

Library News – Texture in Art



Hi Everyone

The Expo featured some fabulous works and inspired me to try using textures.

Using palette knives is definitely a learning curve for me. I've watched a few YouTube videos for techniques and found a book explaining their different uses.

Palette knives can be used to build up thick impasto, create exciting textural effects and scratch designs into the paint. You can buy ready-made heavy-body paints or use modelling paste, caulk powder or powdered plaster mixed with water, either underneath the paint or mixed in with it.

Painting rocks or surf is particularly good for creating sculptural texture and exploring light and dark with a palette knife. The thick paint can create a three-dimensional effect, giving depth and perspective to the painting.

Palette knife painting allows the picture to be built up with less precise applications of colour. Rather than aiming for a detailed finish, the focus is more on expressiveness and strength.

Happy Modelling,

– **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	
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.







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
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
5	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, 27	**Life Drawing**, Convenor – Tanya Bamford-King (Cost $10)
13, 20 (9:30 – 4: 30)	**Oil Painting NZ Landscapes –** Wayne Vickers
Weekend	
Sat & Sun 7–8 Nov 2026 10 – 4 pm	**Mixed Workshop – Time to Break Free** with Shona Mackenzie Cost $320 for two days
Sat & Sun, 28–29 2026 9 – 4 pm	**Soft Pastel Portraits** with Maxine Thompson Cost $185 for weekend
Other	
Thurs–Sun, 19-22	Art & Garden Festival – check their website Bay of Plenty Garden & Art Festival

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

2026 Calendar	
Xmas Event	Saturday 5 December
2027 Calendar	
April Expo	15–18 April
October Expo	To be confirmed

