



The Botanical Art Society of New Zealand Inc

PO Box 36687 . Merivale . Christchurch 8146
botanicartnz@gmail.com www.botanicart.com.au

APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER

COMING UP IN THIS NEWSLETTER!

- **AGM Update**
- **Subscriptions now due**
- **Reminder of new BASNZ P.O. Box and Address**
- **Jenny Phillips Wanaka workshop - Review by Ann Clay**
- **Upcoming Dianne Sutherland Workshop**
- **Botanical Bits and Bobs**

AGM UPDATE

Our annual AGM was held on Wednesday April 27 and was well attended. Karen Atherton was farewelled as President and we are enormously grateful to Karen for the fantastic job she has carried out over the past two years. From managing the South Island tour of the Canterbury Plains Florilegium to our annual exhibition at the Tin Palace in November 2015 as well as all the work carried out behind the scenes, Karen has worked tirelessly making sure everything has run like clockwork.

We are delighted that Jacquie Carran has stepped forward to take on the role of President.

Tina Grey stepped down as Secretary and once again we are indebted to Tina for her commitment to the Society, taking on the role of Secretary for a second term, when we really needed help. Karen will take over the role of Secretary.

Elizabeth Yuill Proctor has done a wonderful job as Treasurer and will continue to manage the Society's financial affairs for another year.

The list of positions for 2016 is as follows:

President	Jacquie Carran
Treasurer	Elizabeth Yuill Proctor
Secretary	Karen Atherton
Librarian	Lorraine Thompson
Newsletter Editor	Suzy Abbott

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are now due! If payment is being posted, please note the change of address for the BASNZ, details of which are outlined below. Please find the subscription details in the attachment.

Change of BASNZ Address

A reminder that our new address is:

The Botanical Art Society of New Zealand Inc
PO Box 36687
Merivale
Christchurch 8146

Jenny Phillips Wanaka Workshop – Review by Anne Clay

A big thank you to Anne for putting the time aside to give us a report on the week spent down in Wanaka with Jenny Phillips.

Botanical Art Class with Jenny Phillips

As a newcomer to Botanical Art, and indeed any other sort of art, I enrolled in a class with Jenny as part of the 2016 Wanaka Autumn Art School. There is nothing like jumping off the deep end!

Thanks to the guidance of the women that meet regularly in Christchurch every Wednesday, I was able to prepare for and procure the correct materials for the class. Armed with my goodies and with a new mug (designed by Jenny our tutor!) in my clasp I joined four others from Christchurch and settled in to the house that we rented for the week. Monday morning began with our tutor having her leg X-rayed and we were all relieved when Jenny arrived, being badly bruised while falling when collecting some plant material for the class.

We closely inspected the beautifully coloured leaves of Virginia Creeper and then used the reverse for a leaf rubbing. Some in the class were completely new to Botanical Art and were unaware of the detail and exactness of the paintings that we were soon to begin. A small group within the class had attended other lessons with Jenny and these women took their leaves and proceeded to draw them very accurately and later as the week wore on we were to see the most exquisite paintings unfold before our eyes. Their work confirmed to all in the class what an amazing amount of work goes in to these paintings.

Day 2. We were given a pear to paint. First we drew it in graphite, and then we painted it. By the end of the day we had our own little exhibition where we were all surprised at the results. To the beginners amongst us it was almost unbelievable.

Day 3. We studied leaves and foreshortening using acetate shapes that we could bend and then see through, and also looked closely at Agapanthus leaves. We talked about the parts of a flower, cast shadows, masking fluid and other techniques we were likely to use.

Day 4. We were told that our next painting was to be a hydrangea! Well I wouldn't have tried one of those as a beginner.....far too many florets.....surely a flower with four simple petals would be much better! But that is where being in a class is a great discipline.....I would do as I was told! We drew a single floret (some had 4 and some had 5 bracts) from all sorts of angles and then put them together. Hey presto and we had a mop headed hydrangea taking place before our eyes. We chose our colours mixed from the six paints that we had been asked to bring and learnt how to use just them for the flower that we each had in front of us.

Day 5. We spent the morning fine tuning our petals and Jenny demonstrated how to approach the leaves and stems. She also showed us how she did dewdrops and also how to do a cross section of our pears.

Throughout the class Jenny demonstrated lots of techniques as they came up. It is one of the joys of having such a talented tutor who willingly shared her expertise with all in the class. The small group of experienced painters showed us that we too could aspire to paint like them but also showed us that good things take time and lots of practice. Students had come from Australia, Tahiti, Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, Invercargill, Stewart Island and parts of Central Otago.

Thank you so much, Jenny. I do hope that I will get the chance to take another course with you in the future. Maybe you will find me with you in Australia at The Botanical Art School of Melbourne.

Ann Clay

Dianne Sutherland SBA Workshop

In our December 2015 newsletter, Elizabeth Yuill Proctor shared with us details of the fascinating Botanical Illustration course she was undertaking with Dianne Sutherland. Dianne is now planning to come to New Zealand in September 2016 and will be conducting workshops in both Christchurch and Auckland. The details are yet to be finalized but any members who are interested in attending should contact Elizabeth at elizabethayp@gmail.com

For more information on Dianne and her work, do visit her website

<http://www.botanicalart-online.com>

Botanical Bits and Bobs

Thanks to our librarian Lorraine Thompson, we now have quite a comprehensive library of great art and horticultural books held at Avic Hill, Christchurch for members to borrow. Don't forget to check out the collection if you are at a Wednesday painting day!

Making a Mark is an informative blog written by Katherine Tyrrell. Katherine features news about major art competitions and exhibitions, interviews with artists, techniques and tips for art and business and also has a special interest in Botanical art. Check out the link below for Katherine's review of the SBA 2016 exhibition "Shape, Pattern and Structure".

<http://makingamark.blogspot.co.nz>

Newsletter Editor
Suzy Abbott