



# GLEN EIRA ARTISTS SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER – Winter 2024

Glen Eira Artists Society Inc

ABN 72-436-357-743

Registration No. A0053616G

P.O. Box 3267, Murrumbena 3163

[geasartists@gmail.com](mailto:geasartists@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/GlenEiraArtistsSociety](http://www.facebook.com/GlenEiraArtistsSociety)

### From the President

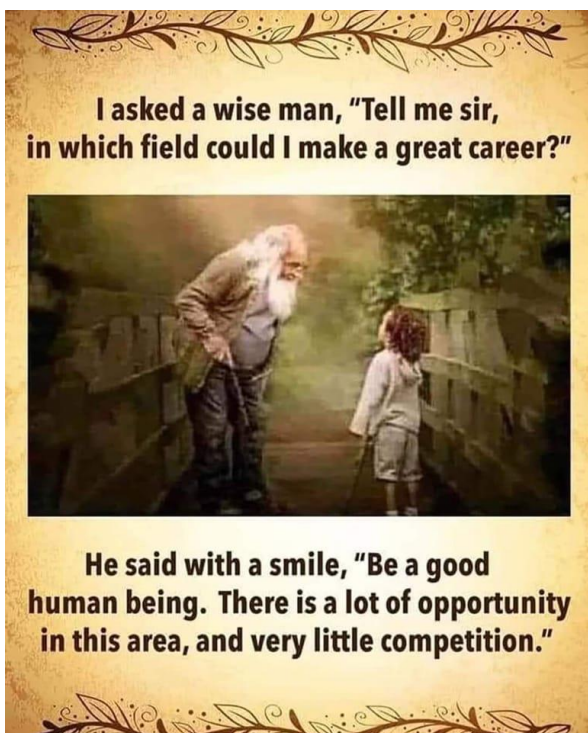
I reflect that life is a bit like a childhood game of “Pick up sticks”. You have to carefully remove sticks with trepidation until either collapse happens or all are successfully removed. Creating art is rather like that, requiring a commitment even when results may be unpredictable and sometimes disappointing. Change is inevitable.

The Social Event organised by Jyl Bell was a resounding success. It was enthusiastically attended by 38 Members. The event underscored the need for more social events and activities, but this can only happen if many people are ACTIVELY engaged. Perhaps we need a GEAS pledge: the golden brush?

Cash is fast disappearing in our daily transactions along with newspapers: who remembers the local news rag (I was a once a weekly delivery boy: it helped pay for music lessons).

With the sale of the Murrumbena Bendigo Bank premises, we have lost the temporary display opportunities which we enjoyed for many years.

Rob Gudan’s role as Life Drawing Convenor is ending on 30 June 2024, creating a vacancy for someone else to take over this role. Mary Lewin is panning to step aside as Secretary at the end of the calendar year, but will continue in her rolls as Membership Officer and Newsletter Editor.



With many of our current committee members (with a lot of rubber on the road) wanting a rest, opportunities exist for convenors. These include participation on the Committee and Subcommittees. The tasks are not onerous, and can be fun and insightful while you learn new things.

### GEAS Social event @ Caulfield RSL

On Sunday, 5 April, the Society held a social function for all members past and present, including spouses and partners. The event took place at the Caulfield RSL, a preferred venue for all GEAS social occasions.

Social events provide members with the opportunity to socialise outside the usual activities program, and are discovery journeys about the range of talent in GEAS. Check the back pages of this bulletin for photos.



### Exhibition 2024

Our exhibition is fast approaching and artworks will soon be required. By the time you read this, two Mentoring sessions were held, led by Clive Sinclair and Lucy Maddox, and ably organised by Angeline Bartholomeusz. Attendances were less than expected, but the works look very promising.

The Exhibition Committee has been busily planning activities including a painting display. It also advanced several processes, including the use of Trybooking. The Formal Opening will take place on Thursday 11 July, during which the adjudicated awards will be presented by the Mayor, and the Adjudicator will provide an explanation of the Awards’ key selection criteria.

More details will be forthcoming with the invitation to submit. All inquiries should be directed to Andrew Inglis Exhibition (Convenor) and Angeline Bartholomeusz.

## Activities Report

Attendance at activities during the first term were significantly down. Of concern is the declining number of participants in Studio Art. At the last AGM it was agreed to encourage participation via a series of art demonstrations by member artists. Bernadette Polak and Mary Lewin were charged with the responsibility to approach artists and report to the Committee. So expect a tap on the shoulder in the near future.

Life Drawing has also been affected with Rob Gudan announcing his retirement. We thank Rob not only for his dedication as Convenor, but also for his other contributions in managing GEAS. We wish him all the best for the future.

## Did you know

Did you know that quite a number of GEAS artists are members of the Red Hat Society: a women's social club?

The Red Hat Society is a unique international group that encourages women to get the most out of life, and supports them in "the pursuit of Fun, Friendship, Fitness and the Fulfillment of lifelong dreams". The Club was founded in the USA in 1998 for women aged over 50, but now it is open to all ages.

I recently learnt that the Club is now encouraging women under 50 to join, but that young women wear pink – not red – hats.

Did you also know that group leaders are called "Queens"? Members wishing to join the Society should contact Queen Helen on 0400 561 662. (Editor's note: I like what "Warning" below stands for.)

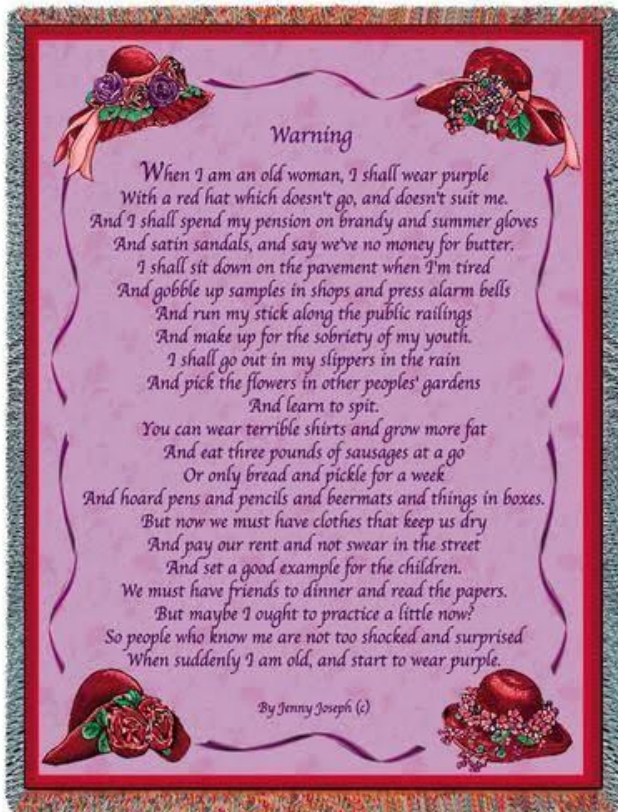


Image from Red Hats Victoria <https://redhatsvictoria.com>

## Kurt Vonnegut

Kurt Vonnegut was an American writer and humourist known for his satirical and darkly humorous novels. In 2006 a high school English teacher asked students to write to a famous author and ask for advice. Kurt Vonnegut was the only one to respond – and his response is magnificent:

"Dear Xavier High School, and Ms. Lockwood, and Messrs Perin, McFeely, Batten, Maurer and Congiusta.

I thank you for your friendly letters. You sure know how to cheer up a really old geezer (84) in his sunset years. I don't make public appearances anymore because I now resemble nothing so much as an iguana.



What I have to say to you, moreover, would not take long, to wit: Practice any art, music, singing, dancing, acting, drawing, painting, sculpting, poetry, fiction, essays, reportage, no matter how well or badly, not to get money and fame, but to experience becoming, to find out what's inside you, to make your soul grow.

Seriously! I mean starting right now, do art and do it for the rest of your lives. Draw a funny or nice picture of Ms. Lockwood, and give it to her. Dance home after school, and sing in the shower and on and on. Make a face in your mashed potatoes. Pretend you're Count Dracula.

Here's an assignment for tonight, and I hope Ms. Lockwood will flunk you if you don't do it: Write a six line poem, about anything, but rhymed. No fair tennis without a net. Make it as good as you possibly can. But don't tell anybody what you're doing. Don't show it or recite it to anybody, not even your girlfriend or parents or whatever, or Ms. Lockwood. OK?

Tear it up into teeny-weeny pieces, and discard them into widely separated trash receptacles. You will find that you have already been gloriously rewarded for your poem. You have experienced becoming, learned a lot more about what's inside you, and you have made your soul grow.

God bless you all!"  
Kurt Vonnegut

## Members' News

Angeline Bartholomeuz recently exhibited a number of works at the Members' Room of the Victorian Artist Society, as part of the VAS Council exhibition. Her work "Sands of Time" (below) was sold at the exhibition. Congratulations Angeline.



## Special Events

A call to artists to submit works at a very special exhibition.

**South Eastern SUICIDE PREVENTION NETWORK**  
recognise, protect, prevent

**SAVE THE DATE**

We are looking for your artwork for -  
**Spotighting Bullying ...  
...Inspiring Kindness**

**3-16 SEPTEMBER 2024**  
**The Track Gallery**  
47 Miller Cres  
Mount Waverley

Early bird incentives  
**All ages welcome to exhibit**

For enquiries contact - Malcolm  
(M) 0403 583 927  
(E) sesuicideprevention@gmail.com

Temple Society Australia | Rotary | Oakleigh Clayton Huntingdale | Wesley Mission

## Governance and Administration

### Website

Our website is a work in progress, continuously being updated. For more information about the online gallery and how to take advantage of this opportunity, members should contact Mary: 0418 377 965 or [geartists@gmail.com](mailto:geartists@gmail.com).

Members are welcome to attend Committee meetings and participate in the deliberations. Please contact us [geartists@gmail.com](mailto:geartists@gmail.com) for a Zoom invitation.

We need your contributions. Please send stories, poems, artwork images, as well as suggestions for new columns and improvements. Send these to [geartists@gmail.com](mailto:geartists@gmail.com)

## Acknowledgements and attributions

We acknowledge the important role and support to date of the Rotary Club Caulfield.

**CHECK NEXT PAGES FOR PHOTOS FROM THE SOCIAL EVENT**



Proudly supported  
by the Glen Eira  
City Council

Murrumbeena  
Community Bank® Branch  
**Bendigo Bank**

Melbourne  
Artists'  
Supplies

# GEAS SOCIAL EVENT PHOTOS

