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**Our website:** [www.rangioraart.org.nz](http://www.rangioraart.org.nz)

May 2017

Greetings Everyone,

Early in May we held the AGM which was attended by a small group who heard Peter Allen, Waimakariri councillor and ex-principal of Rangiora High School, speak about many of the developments underway in Rangiora as well as within the wider district. Of particular interest is the development of Art in public places within the district, an early example being the bronze outside the Rangiora library. A Trust has been set up to manage the purchase of art, supported by Council funding and administration. Peter also reported on the growth in the district which coupled with earthquake repair work has enabled the council to 'put back better than before' with the upgrading of the Rangiora Town Hall, improvements to Kaiapoi Library and waterfront. The Council is now looking to the future, planning towards an expected population of 80-90,000 people by 2040.

At the AGM we farewelled several hard working committee members, Ngaire Hunt, Quilliam Collister, Bob Cusdin, Lyn Peckover and Viv Knowles. Each outgoing committee member was presented with a gift and Ngaire's hard work was also acknowledged with a bunch of flowers. New members to the committee are Carmen Smart and Russell Hobbs. Returning committee members are Jan Campbell, Margaret Stephenson, Tracy Parker (Treasurer), Pip Dobson (Secretary) and Mike Gilbert (President). The new team is hoping to continue the convivial spirit of the Rangiora Art Society.

**Tutorials:** During May we had in-house tutorials from Tracy Parker (portraits) and Ngaire Hunt (colour mixing), both of these provided support for interested members. The pastel tutorial planned for July has unfortunately had to be cancelled. We have tried to contact all members who indicated they wanted to attend. We would like to continue the in-house tutorials and welcome members to offer their expertise if they feel they could provide one in the future.

**Collage Workshop led by the Drawing Room will be held on Tuesday 20 June** by Ali and Prue from the Drawing Room. We hear that these workshops have been great fun and result in completed works of art for the individual. Please make sure that you have pre-paid this workshop by Tuesday 30 May. The cost is only \$30 (subsidised by RAS). Return form at the end of the Newsletter.

**Finances:** The Financial report indicated that the RAS finances are healthy. The RAS does not carry insurance so the funds are there in case of emergency e.g. destruction of our exhibition panels, maintenance and the regular expenses such as venue hire. We all pay a subscription but this does not cover all costs, hence our annual exhibition and raffles. The \$2.00 we pay for the Tuesday sessions is used to pay for the hire of the hall and the basic tea/coffee available for

members.

**Lighting:** Those of you who have been along on Tuesdays lately will know how much better the lighting in the Gospel Hall is now. The RAS provided the lights, which have resulted in a much better lit environment for members.

**Membership List:** We are reviewing the contact details of members to make sure that they are correct as some people have mentioned that they do not always receive a newsletter. We would like to send newsletters to all, preferably by email but we know that a few people do not have access to computers and we will continue to mail their copies to their address. Changes of address have sometimes been slow to reach us so we are checking with all known members. Please let the committee know if you need a name badge.

Tuesday workshops are well attended, especially in the morning but a small group of painters enjoy the space available in the afternoons. It will help us all if those leaving at the end of the morning would please stack their chairs to make packing up less difficult for the much smaller team of people in the afternoons.

The **30-Day Art Challenge** is well underway and will finish at the end of May. Later we expect to have an opportunity for members to see the results of this challenge.

**Exhibitions:**

- **Chamber Gallery:** 'The Waimakariri-Our Land' is currently on display and continues until 7<sup>th</sup> June. The pictures look great in the Chamber and are well worth viewing the works of our fellow members in this setting.
- **Bryce Gallery:** Min Kim is holding a solo exhibition of her work. The exhibition runs until 7 June.
- **Kaipoi Art Expo:** Entries for this year's exhibition are due by May 26. The Expo will be held on 15 and 16 July, open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Rangiora Art Society Spring Exhibition** will be held, as usual on the first weekend in September. We look forward to seeing the art works of our members on display in the Bowling Club rooms.
- **Pegasus Exhibition:** The 2017 exhibition is planned for 14-15 October.
- **Cash & Carry** through Arts Canterbury will be held at Anthony Wilding retirement Village, viewing on 28 July.

There appear to be plenty of opportunities ahead for productive members so keep painting happily with these exhibitions in mind.

- **Brent Firken Workshop:** Brent Firken has been engaged to present a workshop for RAS members on Tuesday 18 July. Further details will be conveyed as soon as we have them.

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**RETURN FORM**

**Collage Workshop (Return by 30 May)**

Tuesday 20 June. I would like to attend the Collage workshop on June 20

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please find enclosed the fee of \$30.00      (circle as appropriate)      cheque cash