

Newsletter – October 2026

President's message.



It's been a fabulous month with critique night run by Tanner and a demonstration by Maureen Lembke showing us how she uses pastels to create amazing pictures. Maureen brought in a selection of her works and discussed the benefits

of pastels to achieve softness in a landscape. On 20 October Maureen will follow up with a hands-on tutorial.

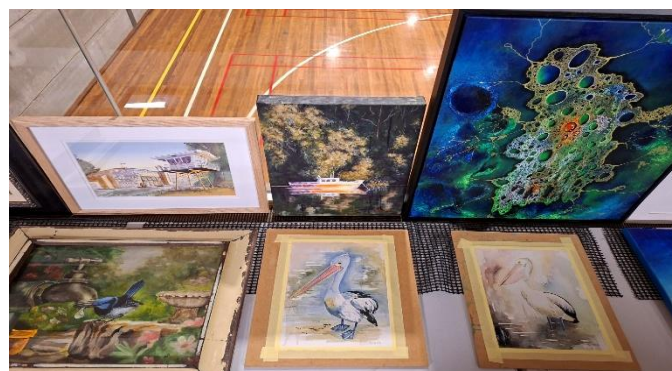
Sunday 20 September, your art group held a workshop at AMRA, 48 Barry Avenue, Mortdale from 9.30am to 4pm. The tutor was Dr Anna Voytsekhovich, a Sydney based artist, scientist, scientific illustrator, botanic artist and wildlife illustrator. Her theme was of painting butterflies in watercolour. The workshop was fully booked and Anna coached us in her techniques to achieve an amazing result. Our big news is the upcoming art show at Menai Marketplace on 26 to 31 October 2026. You will have received details of the show and how to enter, it promises to be a great show and ask that you consider helping out on the roster.

Peter Thorn
President

September's events.

Tuesday 1st September 2026 – 7pm – AGM & Critique – with Tanner Tan.

Our resident Critic, Tanner Tan reviewed the presented paintings and assisted by the audience provided valuable feedback to the artist. A judging panel was formed who awarded Tracy Wilkinson **Best on Show** for her painting of a "honeysuckle bird" and Mina Zuo was awarded **Highly Commended** for her painting of "Boat and trees". Congratulations to you both.



Photos above depict some of the paintings subjected to review on the night.

Tuesday 15th September 2026, Demonstration – Maureen Lembke – Painting with pastels.



Maureen discussed her progression in this style of painting indicating that some of her influences were Robyn Gosbell and Margarette Looney. Basically she described that using pastels was a blending process on paper/support with “tooth”, and a fixative to secure the art to its support. Maureen then discussed her progression of this technique by using displayed examples and indicating that she had used pastels over watercolours to enhance the subject matter. Then Maureen demonstrated the technique on an actual painting of trees in a watercolour medium.



Anna Voytsekhovich – Watercolour – Butterflies.



Anna, is a Sydney based artist, scientist, botanical artist and wildlife illustrator. This workshop concentrated on the fascinating world of the butterflies. Anna then took her attendees through a step-by-step guidance of



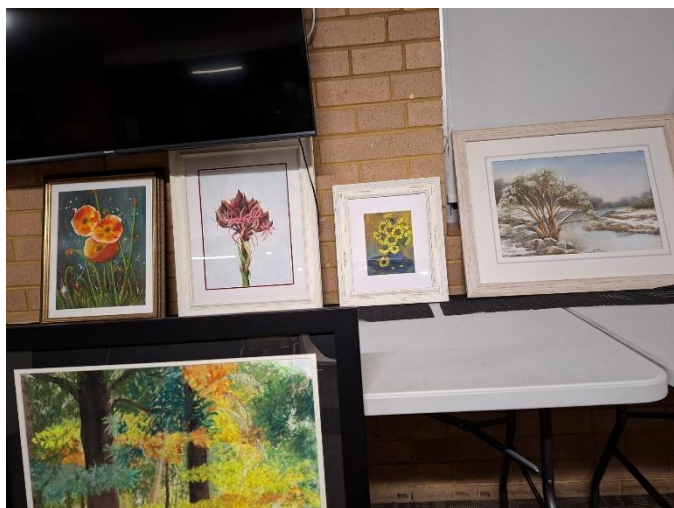
watercolour techniques to depict this subject matter.



Photos above depict Anna and some of the attendees along with one result submitted by Julie Stanfield. (Thanks Julie for the photos.)

Thursdays 3, 10, 17, 24 September – Social Painting at Sylvania.

This daytime activity provides members the opportunity to socialise whilst attending to their current painting project. **The photo below depicts some of the attendees and their masterpieces.**



Sunday 20 September 2026 – AMRA – Workshop –

Thank you Janette for the photo.



October's Activities.

Tues		Thurs	
		1	No Painting – School Holidays
6	Critique-7pm with Tanner Tan - \$5 for members, \$10 for visitors	8	No Painting - School Holidays
13		15	Social Painting - Sylvania, 1pm - \$10 for members
20	Tutorial – Maureen Lembke - Pastels – 7pm – \$10 members \$15 Visitors	22	Social Painting - Sylvania, 1pm - \$10 for members
27		29	Social Painting - Sylvania, 1pm - \$10 for members

Tuesday 6th October 2026 – 7pm – Critique – Tanner Tan - \$5 members and \$10 for non-members. This activity is to subject paintings to review by our resident Critic, Tanner Tan aided by the attending audience. A judging panel will be formed, and they will award paintings for **Best On Show** and **Highly Commended**. Up to 3 paintings can be presented for review ensuring that no wet works are presented. Light refreshments are available.

Tuesday 20th October 2026 – 7pm – Tutorial – Maureen Lembke – Painting with pastels – \$10 members and \$15 for visitors.

Maureen, will continue from her demonstration in September. Participants will get hands on experience in using the medium. Attendees are



asked to bring along any old watercolour painting that they might not be satisfied with. Then she will explain how that subject can be enhanced by using pastels. Maureen indicates that she has many pastels that can be used by the attendees but if you have some then bring them along. Also, pastel paper will be made available if you want to start by just using pastels by themselves. This tutorial will concentrate on some techniques including blending, scumbling, cross hatching, layering and feathering and the use of different pastel types such as “soft”, “hard” and “oil pastels”.

26 to 31 October 2026 Menai Marketplace Exhibition.

This exhibition is an opportunity for members to display their artworks and for possible sales to occur. We will also be raising money for Sutherland Hospital via raffled paintings. Fabulous paintings have been donated by Janette Rigby Sammut and Noel Carrigg and we thank them both for their contribution. Entry forms have been circulated and are to be completed by the 1st Tuesday in October, that is, Critique Night. **Please pay attention to the requirements for presentation and the delivery and pick up times.**



Thursdays 15, 22 & 29 October – 1pm to 4pm – Social Painting - \$10 members. This daytime activity is an opportunity for members to attend to their current or older project whilst socially interacting with other members and getting some feedback on their progression. Light refreshments are available. NB: no painting on 1st and 8th October due to school holidays.

November's Activities briefly.

Tues		Thurs	
3	Critique – Tanner Tan – 7pm.	5	Social Painting- 1pm to 4pm
10		12	Social Painting- 1pm to 4pm
17	Demonstration – Maureen Lembke – Panting with pastels – 7pm - \$10 members, \$15 visitors.	19	Social Painting- 1pm to 4pm
24		26	Social Painting- 1pm to 4pm

Other news.

Next Committee Meeting:

11am at Maureen Lembke's residence on Wednesday 7 October 2026.

What's on.

Hazelhurst, GyMEA –

Sutherlandshire.nsw.gov/Hazelhurst

Art Gallery NSW –

Artgallery.nsw.gov.au

Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prize finalists and winners.

National Gallery, Canberra -

nga.gov.au

ACTIVITIES BY MEMBERS:

Joe Green, Richard, Astrid, Annabelle & Julia Green, Janette Rigby Sammut, Michael Rogers, and Noel Carrigg, all members, are exhibitors at The Kurnell Gallery, 6 Prince Charles Pde. Opening hours 10am to 3pm on each Saturday and Sunday of the month. Everyone is welcome.

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BANK DETAILS: Southern Cross Art Group Inc.

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Cheers until the next time

Noel Carrigg - Editor

