

NEWSLETTER April 2015
Editor Carolyn Sandercoe

☺ **MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR**

Just a quick “hello” message to introduce myself to those who may not know me.

I commenced my working career in the Commonwealth Public Service starting as a stenographer (at the age of 16 years) with the then Repatriation Department (now Department of Veterans’ Affairs), where I met my future husband, Ross, and then obtained a position in Defence Service Homes as Secretary to the State Manager. I

remained in that position until mid-1991 when my son, Sean, was born. I decided to be a “full time” Mum and resigned from the Commonwealth Public Service. I spent my time, as well as doing normal home duties, helping out at tuckshops and bookshops at both primary and secondary schools.

I have always had a love of flowers, and after a visit to a Sogetsu Exhibition at Mt Coot-tha in 2005, I was hooked on ikebana. I then commenced lessons with Pat Mackie in 2006 and have continued taking lessons from her, attaining my Teachers’ Diploma in 2011.

I attended my first Committee Meeting in July 2008 and became Secretary in 2009. I have enjoyed my time on the Committee and would encourage our new members to become more involved in our Association by

attending our workshops, where possible, and also becoming an active member of the Committee. By being involved, it helps our Association to continue to flourish.

If any member has any suggestions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or any of the Committee members. All current Committee member details

are on the front page of your 2015 members list for 2015. Catherine Purdon [Best wishes from all the members to Catherine in her

new role as Director. Also a ‘sincere thank you’ to Judith McCulloch for her wonderful, conscientious and capable Directorship for the last 3 years. Ed.]

☺ **MEMBERS’ NEWS**

In-house Workshop by Pat Mackie February 25th, 2015.

8 members joined Pat for the workshop –The topic of **Flying Flowers** was held at the Toowong Community Meeting Place (TCMP), Josling Street.



John, Rosalie, Pat, Chieko, Ingrid, Judith and Catherine.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR ATTENTION

**Sat. 9 May In-house Workshop TCMP
10-1pm – bring lunch
19-20 June Workshops - Seiseki
Umemura Kenmore BCC Library 10-4pm**

Flying Flowers – the idea was to use natural materials, with movement or explosion, and a bursting forth of lovely materials. Pat suggested we look for a couple of examples, study them and go with the first idea. It is usually the best one.

The finished arrangements were lovely, all very different, some strong and some more delicate with lovely colour combinations and lots of movement.

Pat told us about the testing she has completed for the Kumon level of study. Congratulations Pat, for achieving this high level in Sogetsu Ikebana.

We all enjoyed the morning workshop, and look forward to more members attending the next one.

Margaret Kortbaek



Some of the arrangements

☺ **AGM 18th MARCH**



Our Guest Speaker, Sculptor Dr Rhyl Hinwood AM and a butcher bird bronze figure she brought.

Our members were treated to a generously illustrated talk by Rhyl of her professional life as a sculptor, and some of the ways she thinks when creating new pieces.

She loves the challenge of making large works and has sculpted mainly in Helidon freestone, marble and bronze. In learning how to sculpt it was necessary to first learn how to carve with all the tools of chiselling, moulding etc., and then she has just let her spirit guide the sculpture. [It just sounds so much like our ikebana journey!-Ed.]

In 1976 she started a large commission for the Univ. of Qld to carve grotesques, heraldry and flora and fauna in Helidon freestone on several of the Great Court buildings. I well remember her high up on scaffolding chipping away at her work, when I attended University. She has since completed hundreds of sculptures in the University grounds including recent commissions at 'Wordsmiths'- The Writers' Café and at a number of the Residential Colleges. Some sculptures are in the Roma Street Parklands including the only memorial to Sir Thomas Brisbane, as well as in other public and private spaces in Brisbane. Additionally she has works throughout Australia and one she is very proud of, is the Coat-of-Arms found in the House of Representatives Chambers installed in 1988 for the new Parliament House. She was recently commissioned to sculpt 13 large freestone statues of Biblical characters, to be located on the Westside of St John's Anglican Cathedral facing Ann St. The first three were lifted into position in January, depicting Wisdom, St John The Baptist and Mary Magdalene. Each statue includes elements of natural history of Australia especially Queensland. As St John's is the last Neo-Gothic Cathedral to be built in the world, Rhyl's work will be there as a

reminder in perpetuity of her massive contribution to sculpture in Australia. We were indeed privileged to have her speak to us and share her insights of a life of a truly creative sculptor.



Wisdom and Mary Magdalene close ups, and St John's with the three completed figures looking quite small on the enormous edifice.



A vote of thanks and gift to Rhyl via Carolyn.



Some of the members preparing for the AGM

After Rhyl's talk, the business of the AGM ran smoothly. Judith as Director gave us a thorough account of a busy year of activities of the Association, Treasurer Sue showed our finances are in good shape. New Committee members were then elected. Our very best wishes to Catherine as our new Director, and please give all the Committee your full support this year, especially as we have a number of members in new positions. There are always so many new things to learn, all are very capable and you are in

good hands yet again. A special thank you to all last year's Committee that worked so well together.



Judith presenting Pat with gift of appreciation for her many years on the Committee, and her role as Exhibition Chairperson.

Carolyn Sandercoe

☺ Ballina Trip for Lismore's I.I. Celebrations.

On Tuesday, 24 March 2015, 18 members from the Sogetsu Queensland Branch travelled to Ballina to attend the Lismore Ikebana Chapter #32, 55th Emerald Exhibition, Demonstration and Luncheon. Unfortunately, due to some heavy traffic delays, some members had to turn around and return home, whilst others became concerned, when only realising half way to Ballina, that daylight saving time had not been taken into consideration. Fortunately these concerns were unwarranted, as the local members were still partaking of tea, coffee and lovely tasty "goodies", when the rest of the Qld contingent arrived.

Patricia Wilson, Master of Ceremonies, welcomed everyone (around 120 – more than anticipated). Visitors came from Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast. Kaye Pearson, Director opened the proceedings. Some of their members, for instance Dorothy Edwards, have been involved with Ikebana International for the full 55 years. Seiseki Umemura's demonstration of seven arrangements over a one and a half hour period was designed with his theme of "green". He based this on

the “emerald” celebration theme and therefore chose containers that were a greenish/turquoise colour.

His first arrangement used a “split” container. Yosh mentioned that this type of container was designed by Hiroshi Teshigahara and apparently this “split” came about by accident in the kiln, but has become a deliberate part of the design.

Yosh used a branch of a cypress tree that he had recently cut down in his new garden. He used the top, middle and bottom of this branch in some of his arrangements.

Seiseki Umemura quoted one of Norman Sparnon’s favourite phrases “it meant to be” when, as we all experience, sometimes flowers/branches make up their own minds want they want to do.

The demonstrations were followed by a very enjoyable lunch.

It was wonderful catching up with old friends, and making new ones, and this is why it is great to attend functions like this to renew and rekindle “ikebana friendships”.

Catherine Purdon

Seiseki Umemura’s demonstration



Two of his arrangements.



Dorothy Edwards



Emerald green arrangements



Kaye Pearson



Jackie Frauenfelder



Michael Ewens



Del Blackburn



Dorothy Edwards, Bonnie Kerkenezov, and Director Kaye Pearson. Dorothy and Bonnie are original members.



Nancy Farrell

☺ **Achievement**

A student of Vernisher's, Lorraine Dyer recently received her 1st Certificate.



[Well done Lorraine –Ed.]

☺ **Art Gallery Arrangements**

Here is the roster for Art Gallery arrangements for the next 3 months. I hope as many of you as possible can view these wonderful fresh creative arrangements.

Catherine Purdon	April 2
Kimio Takahashi	April 10
Helen Bartley	April 17
Pat Mackie	April 23/24
Pat Mackie	May 1
Kimio Takahashi	May 8
John Baxter	May 14
Gary Yong Gee	May 22(Thurs)
Vernisher Wooh	May 29
Chieko Klerkx	June 5

Catherine Purdon June 12
Judith McCulloch June 1
Robyn Cuming June 25

Robyn Cuming, Gallery Coordinator

ITEM OF INTEREST

We are all very sorry to hear of the recent passing of Elisabeth de Silva's dear husband Nihal. Our loving thoughts are with you Elisabeth [Ed.]

☺ **EDITOR**

Thank you to all our photographic and article contributors. I really appreciate your contributions, as it makes my job so much easier! ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

For the information of contributors, if possible, please send document or email size photographs.

For articles, it would be helpful to use Arial font in 12 point please. If you are not familiar with these twiddles I'm still very happy to receive the contributions. Do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss anything. Thank you.

Carolyn Sandercoe
