



SOGETSU IKEBANA QUEENSLAND INC.

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NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2017

Editor Judith McCulloch

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2017.

The Sogetsu School, founded by Sofu Teshigahara in 1927, will celebrate 90 years this year, under the catchphrase the "*The flower becomes me*". This phrase was selected remembering what the founder Sofu Teshigahara said - *flowers become human in ikebana* - as the starting point of the Sogetsu School. Celebrations commenced last year and will continue during this year.

The 90th Anniversary celebrations in Tokyo on 9 April 2017 will include the official Ceremony and an Ikebana Performance by Iemoto Akane Teshigahara during the day, followed by a Commemorative Party in the evening. Workshops are also being held on the days leading up to the Sunday festivities.

Some Queensland Sogetsu members are attending the celebrations and workshops, along with other members from throughout Australia. It should be a wonderful experience.

Members attended a very enjoyable Christmas lunch at London Fields Restaurant at West End which was also attended by our Patron, Mr John Massy and his wife Karen. Thank you to our Secretary, Sue Poole, for organising the venue.

I look forward to catching up with you at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 22 March at the Brisbane Square Library.

Keep enjoying your ikebana.

Catherine Purdon

DATES TO NOTE

22 March—AGM

**5, 6 May—workshops with
Seiseki Umemura**

**19, 20 August—Annual
Exhibition**

POTTERY CLASS

In September, last year I attended a pottery workshop with seven students, Catherine, Jan, Vernisher, Ingrid, Julie, Yvette, Sallyanne. The potter running the workshop was Helen Davey who has a studio in Kenmore - Creative Clay
www.creativeclay.com.au

The class consisted of two sessions and included a lovely lunch. We then returned a few weeks later for a morning to glaze our work. It is a great feeling to be able to use a unique container you have made yourself. Some may feel it is a little too unique and it may not see the light of day, but I think they were all masterpieces!

I can highly recommend Helen Davey as a teacher. Everyone enjoyed it very much and some will be doing it again in the future.

Pat Mackie



Catherine Purdon working on her masterpiece

ARRANGEMENTS AT XL SERVICE BODIES PTY LTD

December last year, Catherine received a request on the Sogetsu website from an engineering company in Wacol (XL Service Bodies Pty Ltd.)



What was required were two ikebana arrangements in their factory to welcome some Japanese customers - one large arrangement at the entrance and a small one in the reception area on a table used for the bar. The colours needed to be black and red. Catherine and I, up for a challenge in good Sogetsu style, said yes!

This was the first time we had done arrangements in a working factory.

Production stopped, tables were shuffled and we had an hour to complete the work. Then they were to be taken down after the reception in four hours' time.

It was a great experience. Always accept the challenge!

Pat Mackie



IKEBANA AT JAPANESE CELEBRATION

Each year there is a reception at the official residence of the Consul-General of Japan, to celebrate the birthday of His Imperial Highness the Emperor of Japan. This year it was hosted by Mr Hidehiro Hosaka and his wife on 1 December. Sogetsu and Ohara Ikebana people were invited to display ikebana works on this occasion. There is a report of the event on the Consulate website

www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp

Judith McCulloch



Left— Judith

Right— Sue



Chieko

IKEBANA AT QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY

Thank you to members who exhibit their ikebana at QAG. I know the staff and visitors are very appreciative of our efforts. It does take time to keep the arrangements watered and remove wilted material. Try to make sure the container you use does not seep water.

Remember, if you are unable to do the ikebana for some reason on your rostered day, you should find another member to take your place. After that please inform Robyn, who organises the roster, of the name of the new person so the car-parking can be adjusted.

Don't forget to see photos of this ikebana on our website.

Judith McCulloch

HIROSHI QUOTE FROM THE SOGETSU MAGAZINE WINTER 2016 NO.331

HEART OF IKEBANA

"When I capture the beauty of a flower, I do not check its name. What I do is to reduce its beauty to colours and lines. According to my theory, you have not produced a good ikebana if you are concerned about the name of the flower....."

If you are concerned about the name of the flower, you are not free from the flower. It means that the flowers have been arranged based on common sense. To avoid this, you have to reduce the flower to its colours and lines. If you express freely on this basis, then, you will be able to create an unexpected arrangement that will then lead to a new image."

(From "Furuta Oribe", NHK Publishing, Inc. 1991)

Following is a quote attributed to the proprietor of UMENO KAKI TEN in Tokyo:

(The article of which this is a part was written by Victor France in Ikebana International magazine Vol 45, Issue 2, 2000—2001)

"What defines a particular school's choice of container is not so much shape or material, but the relationship with the supplier. Our associations with Sogetsu date back to the time of Sofu Teshigahara, whose studio was located nearby. His preference was for containers that could be suitably placed almost anywhere, and we've evolved to meet that demand."

I know some of our members have been in this shop.

Judith

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR SOGETSU

As usual, our secretary Sue will be sending out detailed information about this event.

The Guest Speaker for the AGM will be Professor Alan Rix, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, University of Queensland.

He has taught Japanese Studies at the University, having studied in Japan as a student.

He has collected contemporary works of art for over 40 years and is currently responsible for the UQ Art Museum.



As well, his other areas of responsibility include:

- having administrative leadership and general superintendence of the Gatton Campus and the Pinjarra Hills Site.
- Industrial and employee relations issues as they relate to academic staff, and UQ staff development programs.

DEMONSTRATION



This is one of the four arrangements done by Sue Poole for her demonstration of Sogetsu Ikebana to the Indooroopilly Probus Club on Tuesday 7 February.

Below is a photo taken at a workshop with Seiseki Umemura in April 2010

WORKSHOPS

All Sogetsu Ikebana members and other students are encouraged to come to the workshops to be conducted at the Kenmore Library by Mr Seiseki Umemura on 5 and 6 May.

More information will be sent closer to these dates, but the topics are likely to be taken from the new Sogetsu Text-book 5.

