



## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2016

Editor Judith McCulloch

### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Our 2016 annual exhibition *The Flower Becomes Me* proved to be a great success, with 600 people attending on the Saturday and Sunday, 20 and 21 August. The inside of the Auditorium was again arranged beautifully by Vernisher Wooh, the Exhibition Chairperson. This year we had a number of new exhibitors which is wonderful to see. We consequently had the new generation and the older generation on show. It was great to see the enthusiasm of these new exhibitors coupled with that similar enthusiasm generated by those members who have exhibited for many years at our annual exhibition. Thank you to all the exhibitors.

Also, thanks to those members who provided demonstrations this year; those who conducted the tours, as well as those who were in charge of the kitchen, trade table and front desk, and their willing helpers.

As well as the annual exhibition, in the last two months we have also had the opportunity to be involved with the Camellia Society Show, and the Japan Day activities. Two of our members (Judith in August and Pat in September) are providing demonstrations at GOMA in conjunction with their 'Time of Others' exhibition which is an exhibition of contemporary art from the Asia-Pacific region. This is another wonderful opportunity offered to us by the Queensland Art Gallery/GOMA to educate the general public about the wonderful world of Sogetsu ikebana. Keep enjoying your ikebana.

Catherine Purdon

### COMING EVENTS

7 September:  
Social outing for members

16 November:  
Workshop at Toowong for members

7 December:  
Christmas lunch

## GLIMPSES OF THE EXHIBITION



BELOW IS A COPY OF THE  
SPEECH GIVEN BY THE  
CONSUL-GENERAL TO OPEN  
THE EXHIBITION



I am Hidehiro Hosaka, the Consul-General of Japan in Brisbane. It is my great honour to be here today to officially open the Sogetsu Ikebana Association's 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Exhibition.

Sogetsu School of Ikebana will be celebrating its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary in March 2017 and the theme for the anniversary is "The Flower Becomes Me" 「花は、私になる。」. The Queensland branch has taken this theme for the exhibition this year. In recognition of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary, two years of celebrations and festivities started in April of this year. These festivities have been held not only in Japan, but throughout the world.

I would like to thank the Sogetsu Ikebana Association for their continuing contribution to the promotion of ikebana culture in Queensland. And with its long history in Queensland stretching from 1963, Sogetsu Ikebana Qld is somewhat of a cultural icon in this region. The Sogetsu Ikebana Association's members provide great assistance to important cultural events every year including the recent Camellia Show here at Mt Coot-tha. The hard work and dedication of this group is greatly appreciated by the Consulate-General of Japan.

Ikebana is a traditional Japanese art form and has been an important part of Japan's culture. However ikebana today is a universally appreciated and practiced art form. I feel very proud of the fact that a Japanese culture has been contributing to enrich the lives of people of the world.

As with many forms of traditional Japanese art, ikebana is a complicated and beautiful art. Though there are certain rules governing form, ikebana is a creative expression. Through the conversation or negotiation with Kazai, or flower staff, the artist's intentions become clear or inspirations come down to artists. Flowers and branches are given due places to occupy and the results are created art pieces. I believe this is why the theme of this event "The Flower Becomes Me" is so fitting.

I hope you all have a chance to appreciate these beautiful displays and talk with the wonderful artists.

It is my great pleasure to declare 2016's Sogetsu Ikebana Associations Exhibition, "The Flower Becomes Me", now open. Thank you.

## JAPAN DAY

Sogetsu Ikebana was involved again this year in the Japan Day activities held at Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens on Sunday, 14 August 2016.

Four members — Catherine Purdon, Michelle Wong, Chieko Klerkx and I did arrangements along with four members from the Ohara School, in the Japanese Garden.



Sue

The weather on the day was beautiful, sunny and warm, and consequently many people had taken the time to visit the Japanese Garden.

Catherine and I took the opportunity to hand out our exhibition flyers which were well-received by the members of the public.

The Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane, kindly donated \$100.00 to both ikebana schools towards the cost of the flowers.

Sue Poole

## ORIGAMI WITH CHIEKO BEFORE THE GENERAL MEETING IN JULY



Thank you Chieko.

Left: Chieko

Below: Kimio, Vernisher, Karen



To those who attended—have you practised at home to make some origami items?

## CAMELLIA SHOW

Members of Sogetsu Ikebana were invited by the Queensland Camellia Society to participate in their "Camellia in Focus" day on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016.

Pat Mackie, Rosalie Turk, Chieko Klerkx, Jan Killoran and I did the arrangements incorporating camellias and branch material.

We were fortunate to be allowed to acquire some Camellia flowers and branches on the Friday before the show from the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens Camellia garden. A big thank you to the Curator, Dale Arvidsson, for allowing us this opportunity, under the watchful guidance of one of their gardeners.



Catherine Purdon

Ikebana by Catherine, Chieko and Jan

## IKEBANA CLASS OUTINGS FOR PAT MACKIE'S STUDENTS

### THE MONDAY MORNING CLASS WENT TO MOOGERAH

On Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2016, Jan Killoran, Ingrid Kivikoski and I all went with Pat Mackie in her car to Moogerah where one of Pat's students, Lesley Grace, has a lovely home on 75 acres. Our plan was to collect material for our class the following Monday.

Lesley's house has Mt Greville close behind the property, which creates a wonderful backdrop and is impressive when viewed from inside the new extension to the house. After coffee and cake we thought we had better start looking for some ikebana material, although the weather on that day was so warm and sunny it was tempting to just sit and enjoy the surrounds.

Lesley finally got us going and led us along her creek pointing out the many and various trees she and her husband had planted since acquiring the property. We managed to gather a good selection of material such as vines, roots and leaves for our Monday class. As can be seen from one of the photos, it is surprising how much you can put into the back of a car.

After a leisurely lunch and another chat it was time to head home. We all enjoyed the outing and many thanks to Lesley for the invitation.

Catherine Purdon



### PAT'S MONDAY MORNING CLASS AT INGRID KIVIKOSKI'S HOME/PROPERTY AT CAMIRA ON 18 JULY 2016

Ingrid, another of Pat's students, invited the Monday morning class to her property to enable us to acquire material from her garden for use in our arrangements.

Ingrid had a big selection of containers available for our use. Most of us also took the opportunity to do some outdoor installations/arrangements.

It was great to be outside in the winter sun, creating many and varied arrangements.

Thank you Ingrid for allowing us to take over your garden.

Catherine Purdon

### THANK YOU

Vernisher Wooh would like to thank all members who helped to make our recent Exhibition such a success—those who exhibited as well as those who worked in various areas such as demonstrations, trade table, kitchen, front door, guided tours.

It was also a wonderful opportunity for members to meet up with each other, working for a common goal.

Vernisher wants to encourage those members who did not exhibit this year to make an extra effort to do so next year. It really is worth the effort if it is at all possible for you to do so.