



SOGETSU IKEBANA QUEENSLAND INC.

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NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2018

Editor Judith McCulloch



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to a new Sogetsu Ikebana year. I hope 2018 will be a year of good health and creative discoveries.

Our Annual General Meeting will be a little earlier this year, on Wednesday, 14 March. Our Guest Speaker will be Christopher James, Director of the Victorian Sogetsu Branch and one of the Trustees of the Norman and Mary Sparnon Endowment Scholarship. This Scholarship involves a three-month study period in Tokyo and Christopher will be outlining what this entails. He will also be sharing his experiences during the time he spent in Japan. Christopher is coming to Brisbane because the Trustees are wanting to encourage Sogetsu teachers other than those from New South Wales and Victoria, to apply for this Scholarship.

One of the recent recipients of this Scholarship, Ms Sandy Marker, will be conducting workshops at Kenmore Library in June. This is another wonderful opportunity for our members to share some of Sandy's knowledge gained while she was in Tokyo.

It was lovely seeing our Patron John Massy and his wife Karen at our Christmas lunch again this year. Those of us who attended enjoyed a lovely lunch of Japanese food at Hana Zushi Japanese Restaurant at Sunnybank.

Allow the flowers to speak to you. Talk about yourself through flowers. The starting point of arranging ikebana lies in your communication with the flowers while you work with them. Talking to the flowers, you are also talking to yourself. You should realise that even the materials you have worked with before speak differently depending on the time and occasion. Just as flowers' language has no limit, ikebana expression is also boundless.

This is from "The Fifty Principles of Sogestu by Sofu Teshigahara" - Principle No. 5 - *Communicate with the flowers as you work with them.*

Keep enjoying your ikebana.

Catherine Purdon

2018 DATES TO NOTE

Wednesday 14 March:

Sogetsu AGM

Saturday 7 April:

Book 5 Textbook Training Session

Friday and Saturday 29 and 30 June:

Workshops with Sandy Marker

Saturday and Sunday 18 and 19 August:

Annual Exhibition

Saturday 25 to Tuesday 28 August:

Auckland Branch 50 Years Celebration with Mr. Katayama

NEW TEACHER

One of Vernisher Wooh's students, Michelle Wong, has become a practising Sogetsu teacher. She intends to commence teaching in February 2018. This is exciting news. Michelle will be setting up a studio on the South side of Brisbane.

All the best Michelle for a wonderful future as a teacher and in spreading the word of Ikebana in Brisbane.

One of Sofu's saying is: "In teaching, you don't only impart knowledge, you also impart enjoyment".

Catherine

TEXTBOOK 5 TRAINING

This is a special self-study training session using a DVD supplied by Sogetsu Headquarters.

The session is booked for Saturday morning, 7 April at the Sunnybank Hills Library. It will commence at 9.30 and will take three hours.

It is interesting to note that in 2008 we were looking forward to participating in the Sogetsu training workshops for the new textbooks 1—4.

SOME PHOTOS FROM THE SOGETSU CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT HANAZUSHI



Right: Pat's students celebrated the end of the Ikebana year at the Jindalee Hotel.

SOGETSU IKEBANA DEMONSTRATION

Kenmore Garden Club

Joan-Ann Kendall is a long-time ikebanist. She and I are both members of the Kenmore Garden Club, and were asked to end our club speakers' year, with a Christmas-themed Sogetsu ikebana demonstration on Monday 20th November 2017. Joan-Ann gave a short talk on the history of ikebana and the Sogetsu School in particular and included a description of the main principles.

I then commenced the demonstration with a moribana pattern exercise to show the main principles as I worked with the arrangement. Following this, I then created another eight freestyle arrangements, focusing on the colours and forms of Christmas/New Year.

To be well-prepared, all the materials were sourced from my mother Val's garden and mine, as well as from other local sources. Many of the plants were environmental weeds to show that even they can be used in arrangements. I then spent an entire day before the demonstration, choosing appropriate containers, kenzans and preparing down sticks and cross bars and spraying with gold some dried materials. The design of each arrangement was completed.

On the day, the talk and demonstration all went smoothly with the help of Joan-Ann. The audience of about 80 members had many questions at the end and expressed their delight in learning a little more about Sogetsu Ikebana.

Carolyn Sandercoe



The following are some quotes from textbook 5 by Iemoto Akane Teshigahara:

"Teaching is learning, as everybody says, and it is what I feel every day. Through teaching I notice and learn countless new things, which forward my progress and make me happy. I believe every ikebana teacher has the same feeling."

"There is no final goal in learning..."

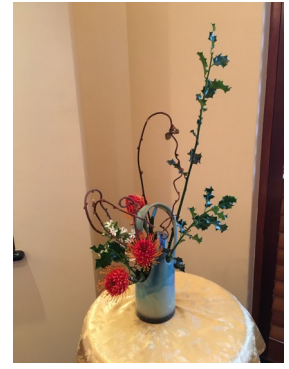
"It is time for you to feel ready to get out of your home and classroom and to take the plunge to present your ikebana to the world."

"By seeing the reactions of those who didn't know anything about ikebana before, you will realise the power and beauty of ikebana which you could never have imagined."

CELEBRATION FOR THE BIRTHDAY OF EMPEROR OF JAPAN

On 4 December 2017 Misae Natsume, of Ohara School, and I were invited to arrange ikebana for the birthday celebrations for the Emperor of Japan. This function was held at the residence of the Consul-General of Japan, Ms Keiko Yanai. It was attended by about 300 guests. We both have received very warm feedback from the Consul-General and others.

Chieko Klerkx



Vernisher's students received certificates:



Left: Joanne Stephen received her first certificate.

Right: Monica Wu received her second certificate.



Below: Vernisher and her students celebrated the end of the year in December at Sirromet Winery at Mount Cotton.



The following information is found in Sō Newsletter no. 8 2017:

"We do apologize that a certain amount of copies of Sogetsu Textbook 5 had bookbinding errors. We've decided to replace those textbooks for new ones. In principle, the Textbook 5 with errors would be received by the HQ. However, we can receive only the Textbook Card of the Textbook 5 if you'd like to keep it with your memos or etc.

Please contact Overseas Affairs Department (Email: overseas@sogetsu.or.jp, Fax +81-3-3405-4947) should you need the information for the procedure."