

# SASA NEWSLETTER – April 2014

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## □ Diary



|              |                    |       |  |
|--------------|--------------------|-------|--|
| <b>APRIL</b> | <b>Saturday 5</b>  | 09h30 | Art in the Park: Rondebosch Park                         |
|              | <b>Tuesday 15</b>  | 10h00 | Studio Visit: Jean Doyle, sculptor                       |
|              | <b>Thursday 24</b> | 09h30 | Paint Out: Art in the Forest, Cecilia Forest, Constantia |
|              | <b>Thursday 24</b> | 19h00 | Monthly Meeting: Interactive Demo with Barbara Moore     |
| <b>MAY</b>   | <b>Monday 5</b>    | 09h30 | Hanging of Members' 1, Kirstenbosch Sanlam Hall          |
|              |                    | 18h00 | Opening of Members' 1, Kirstenbosch                      |

**You can't have more fun than interpreting nature while in the throes of making art. The rest of the world disappears. (Harley Brown)**

## □ President's Letter

Dear Members,

What a lively meeting we had on the 27<sup>th</sup> March with Danish artist Kasper Købke; his enthusiasm for drawing was infectious and I hope you have all caught the drawing bug. Kasper feels very strongly about the positive effects of drawing, and says on his website: "Drawing can bring people together in a common and universal language. Drawing is a tool of communication, on equal terms with speech, intonation, and body language. Most of us have a visual memory; we remember in images. Therefore, bringing drawing into your daily communication will strengthen your message and thereby reduce the risk of misunderstanding." So include little drawings in your notes to family and friends! His tips for working out perspective are very good, once you have figured out where the vanishing point has to be.

If you are inspired to do more drawing or sketching there are groups you can join, such as life drawing groups or sketching groups. There is a facebook group called Urban Sketchers Cape Town <https://www.facebook.com/groups/urbansketchcapetown>. They describe the group thus: "This is a group to share our sketches, drawings, watercolours, paintings, etc. The theme is "urban sketching" which means anything drawn on location, indoors or out, capturing what we see from direct observation (preferably not from photographs or posed models). Our drawings tell the story of our surroundings, the places we live and where we travel.



If possible, add the 'story' of your drawing as this gives context." They often arrange outings and anyone is welcome to join. Our guest speaker for April, Barbara Moore, is a member of this group and will be sharing her enthusiasm for sketching with us. (See under events for the details)

The Sketchpack Project is another fun way to get into the habit of drawing or sketching every day. It is described as a "sketching initiative open to all those who wish to visually record their days". Now in its third year, it was started by a local art shop, and the idea is to buy a small 'sketchpack', neatly folded into 30 little 'pages', and do a drawing or every day for the month of August. It's amazing what some artists did with theirs last year, many of them were little masterpieces. If there is enough interest we can arrange to have some sketchpacks available for sale at our July meeting in time to start in August. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/585561838131924> to visit their facebook page.

Still on the subject of sketching, some members have expressed a wish to start artists' hiking groups, with the aim of either taking reference photos along the way, or stopping to sketch or paint. Would you be interested in this, or have any ideas?

If you are wondering when we are going to have some talks and demos on painting, don't despair, we have painting demos planned for future meetings this year.

Wishing all those taking part in Art in the Park a successful day of sales and contacts.

*Linda Howe-Ely*

## ☐ Member News and Happenings

The noticeboard is put up at every monthly meeting and the latest news from the art world put up for your information. You are invited to bring along your own bits of information to post on the board. Members are also welcome to put up notices advertising their art related products or classes. If you want to know more, contact Solly Gutman on 021 434 8355 or send an email to [brights@telkomsa.net](mailto:brights@telkomsa.net) or if you have any news you would like to share, email [secretary@sasa-artists.co.za](mailto:secretary@sasa-artists.co.za).

This month, we welcome the following new members to the society:

- |                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| ☆ Gabriela Ernst Pieper           | ☆ Cara Hindes       |
| ☆ Thelma van Rensburg of Pretoria | ☆ Mel Lowe          |
| ☆ Beryl Wood Nichols of Gonubie   | ☆ Jeannine Davidoff |
| ☆ Alison van Zyl of Stillbaai     | ☆ John Bauer        |
| ☆ Patricia Newham                 | ☆ Patrick Toy       |
| ☆ Lizette Orffer of Langebaan     | ☆ Debbie Gordon     |



Our condolences go out to Peggy Hodges who lost her husband, Neil, in March. Our thoughts are with you Peggy, at this difficult time.

- 😊 A big thank you to Geoff Price who donated a carload of art items to our outreach programme. Geoff and Merle will be moving to Kwa-Zulu Natal in a few months' time to be with their grandchildren.
- 😊 Recently Ann Nosworthy made the move from a big house to a retirement complex and donated her old art items to outreach. Thank you, Ann.
- 😊 And thank you to Alyson Guy, whose generous donation of the potter's wheel found a new home at the Kirstenhof Primary School.

## ☐ SASA Programme - What's on

### Monthly Meetings

SASA Monthly Meetings are held at the Athenaeum, Boundary Terraces, off Campground Road, Newlands, on the last Thursday of every month at 19h00. Entry is R10 for members and R20 for guests, including refreshments. The library will be open from 17h45 to 18h45 – your membership card is your access to the library.

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March: Pencil Drawing Demonstration by Kasper Købke of Denmark:** What an exuberant and enthusiastic man Kasper is. He entertained, demonstrated and had the audience participating in his drawing process. It was an absolute pleasure to have him as a guest at our monthly meeting and to learn so much from him.

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April: Interactive Demonstration with Barbara Moore:** Watercolour and sketchbook artist, Barbara Moore, will be giving us a demonstration of her work and inviting us to participate with her.

Barbara is an Associate of the Watercolour Society of South Africa and because she travels round the country and between her homes in White River and Simon's Town, she has become very proficient at keeping sketchbooks of her travels.



Remember to bring your sketchbook and pencils with you to the meeting.

## ☐ Exhibitions

**Members' 1: 5<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May:** Good news! For Members' 1 we have increased the number of portfolio pieces you may enter (for free), to 2 for every hung work. You will just pay for the (up to) two hung works.

If you are planning on taking part we would appreciate it if you could let us know, so we have some idea of the number of paintings we will be dealing with. Please email either Glenda Chambers at [gchambers@mweb.co.za](mailto:gchambers@mweb.co.za), or Liz Pearson at

[secretary@sasa-artists.co.za](mailto:secretary@sasa-artists.co.za), before 26<sup>th</sup> April to let us know.

If you have your finished artwork ready, you can send a high quality jpg to minimum 1mb in size to Glenda for possible use for the posters that publicise the event. These are also needed by the 26<sup>th</sup> April at the latest for printing. If you have any queries on this, please contact Glenda at the same email address. The conditions and entry form will be sent out in a week's

time, together with an invitation which you will need to print out and bring with you on opening night, 5<sup>th</sup> May. Please read the regulations carefully to avoid any unhappiness on hanging day.

#### Other Exhibitions:

**Artists of the South** will be holding their Easter Exhibition from Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup> until Monday 21<sup>st</sup> in the Simonstown Library Hall. Open 9am to 5pm daily. Come and meet the Artists on Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 12 midday. Music by Ray Potter and friends. Email [paulinefineartist@gmail.com](mailto:paulinefineartist@gmail.com) tel 021 7825472 / 0828311578.

**Etching exhibition at the Irma Stern Museum.** On Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> May, Christine Scheid will be one of four etching artists on show at the Irma Stern Museum. Opening at 11h00, the exhibition will run until the end of the month.

**The Western Cape Artists' Society** invites you to join them for the opening of their *Across the Palette Exhibition 2014* Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 17h00 at the Circle Centre, Somerset West Exhibition Dates: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April to Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April.

for everything your ART desires!

### HANDMADE SOFT PASTELS by ZELLEN



In 18 brilliant colours, meticulously hand rolled and air dried, each one of these pastels is a unique compression of the finest colour pigments, china clay, marble dust and Gum Tragacanth binder. Typically, soft pastels have more radiant colours compared to semi-hard pastels because the sticks have a higher portion of pigment and less binder.

Pastels work best on pastel paper or any surface primed with pastel primer (which creates a fine tooth for holding the pigment better). Every colour has a specific temperament and responds differently to various mediums – this encourages the artist to experiment, observe and respond accordingly

Useful tips

- Use a brush to wet some areas to create a paint effect
- Use fixative spray in-between stages and as a final coat
- Store pastels on rice to keep them dry
- Clean pastels by rubbing them together
- Keep all pastel bits that break off – these may be used for creating other mediums

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#### □ Plein Air Outings

What a wonderful venue for the Beach Paint Out in Kommetjie last month – those who attended were delighted with the views.



Bridget Heneck has kindly taken over the running of the outings while Yvonne is on her teaching trip up the west coast of Africa. On the morning of the 24<sup>th</sup> April, from 09h30 to 12h30, she has

arranged for us to visit **Art in the Forest**, a wonderful venue in Cecilia Forest just off Constantia Nek.

A visit has been arranged to **Jean Doyle's studio** on the 15<sup>th</sup> April. Jean Doyle is one of South Africa's leading sculptors. She integrates images of Africa with the influence of European culture. Her realism cloaks universal truths and hides a sometimes revolutionary spirit. Jean started her art career as a painter and then discovered sculpture to be a more expressive art form. Jean has sculpted for over thirty years and started her own foundry, one of the first of its kind in Cape Town. Booking for this visit is essential. Please email Linda Howe-Ely at [lindahe@vitalitybroadband.co.za](mailto:lindahe@vitalitybroadband.co.za) or 'phone 021 797 2601.



**Constantiaburg Art Society** On Wednesday 30 April, CAS will be meeting up on Signal Hill in the parking lot. Unfortunately the March event was rained out, so fingers crossed for a nice misty morning. When choosing a place to paint please make sure that you have another painter within sight. There is a guard up there but he can't be everywhere and there is a security problem. Rather be safe than sorry. Views of

Art in the Forest is accessed from Rhodes Drive. Approximately five meters from the Constantia Nek traffic circle, take an immediate left after the open land (where the fruit sellers operate) and travel uphill until you enter the dirt road entrance into Cecilia Forest. Carry on along this dirt road and you should be able to see Art in the Forest on your right about a kilometre's travel on the dirt road.

Please confirm your attendance with Bridget - cell number 082 8088306 email [bridget@heneck.net](mailto:bridget@heneck.net)

Table Mountain, the harbour, Robben Island, the Twelve Apostles and Signal Hill. There are shady and sunny spots so bring the sun cream, hats and umbrellas. Bring a snack, lunch and coffee as there is no shop up there. Please let Carol know if you will be joining them. All plein air painters welcome. Phone Carol 021 674 1346 or 073 203 2263.

**The Fishhoek Art Society** are having a paint out to the Ohio Farm in Noordhoek on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April from 09h30. Meet at the entrance. More info phone John on 021 782 7337.

Our **studio visits** will resume when Yvonne gets back from her travels. The last one was the most popular yet, and it's many thanks to Wyn Rossouw, Tony Grogan and Gavin Collins for opening their studios. A special thanks to Gavin and Amanda Collins for the wonderful tea they put on for everyone. If you would like to open your studio to SASA members, please email Yvonne at [yvonnea@soft.co.za](mailto:yvonnea@soft.co.za) and she will keep your name on file.

## □ Arty Facts

### The Importance of Canvas



Early canvas was made of linen, a sturdy brownish fabric of considerable strength. Linen is particularly suitable for the use of oil paint. One of the earliest surviving oils on canvas is a French Madonna with angels from around 1410 in the Gemäldegalerie, Berlin.

In the early 20th century, cotton canvas, often referred to as "cotton duck," came into use. Linen is composed of higher quality material, and remains popular with many professional artists, especially those who work with oil paint. Linen and cotton derive from two entirely different plants, the flax plant and the cotton plant.

Linen canvas with an oil primer is the classical standard for oil paintings. Linen is difficult to prime and stretch properly, but it offers the smoothest and stiffest painting surface, one with proven longevity. Made from the inner bark of a flax plant, these long fibres produce a strong, flexible, slightly stretchy material that has been known to last for centuries. Due to the method of extracting, processing, and weaving the material for this canvas, it tends to be priced considerably higher than cotton canvas

Cotton duck canvas is much less expensive than linen, and has become the most popular support for oil and acrylic painting, especially for students. A *properly* prepared cotton canvas has longevity similar to linen, and is more flexible and easier to stretch properly. For both oil and acrylic painting, an acrylic primer is generally used. With the current influx of 'cheap and nasty' canvases from the East, it pays to be more vigilant than ever about your canvas quality.

## □ Workshops, Classes and Information

Your 2014 membership card will allow you to claim your 10% discount from the following art shops:

**Deckle Edge – all branches. The Italian Artshop. Village Brush and Canvas. The Art Shop in Hermanus.** You will need to present your new 2014 membership card when claiming your discount, so please ensure that you collect your card at the monthly meeting. All the art shops have instructions to only give the 10% discount to paid up members.

### Mayors Urban Regeneration Programme (MURP)

Cape Town is World Design Capital 2014 and the Mayor's Urban Regeneration Programme has adopted a design led strategy to address the challenge of revitalizing the urban centres of Bonteheuvel, Bishop Lavis and Valhalla Park. The workshops are scheduled for April 15th, 23rd & 30th 2014 and last from 08h00

to 17h30. Eight 'designers' and three 'volunteers' are needed for each one-day workshop. If you want to join click [HERE](#) to register

If you have any questions contact ZAG Consultants at [zagconsultants@gmail.com](mailto:zagconsultants@gmail.com), phone 021 510 8390 or Greatmore Studios at [info@greatmoreart.org](mailto:info@greatmoreart.org).

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April, St Georges Day. In conjunction with the **Simons Town Historical Society** there will be an unveiling of a plaque at Café Pescado plus a host of activities including: Ye olde village fayre, maypole dancing, town crier, water barrels with apples, etc. etc. Artists are invited to come and sketch or paint scenes from this event. Meet at 09h30 at the parking office on Jubilee Square. Please contact Vivian Lamond on 073 267 0064 [vivian@homeroad.co.za](mailto:vivian@homeroad.co.za) for information on stalls, etc. Contact Pauline Fine tel 021 7825472 0828311578 email [paulinefineartist@gmail.com](mailto:paulinefineartist@gmail.com) for more information on the day.



Did you know that April 15<sup>th</sup> is **World Art Day**? This date was selected as it is also Leonardo da Vinci's birth date, and what better icon do we need than this Master to celebrate this day! On the 15<sup>th</sup>, a visit has been arranged to sculptor, Jean Doyle's studio in Wynberg. Jean's work is sometimes quirky in nature and shows her incredible sense of humour. She has her work displayed around the world. Just one piece that every Capetonian knows is 'Just Nuisance', Jean's sculpture that stands guard in Simonstown.



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## New Arrivals

- *New range of sketchbooks now available*
- *New French range of acrylic brushes from Raphael*
- *New Italian cotton canvases now in stock*
- *New Sennelier oil pastels now in stock*



**Greatmore Studios** are looking to appoint an Intern (supported by Africalia and VANSA) on a part time basis with potential for longer term involvement. This internship is a hands-on skills development program, which offers experiential learning and practical engagement in specific programs from Greatmore Studios' range of programs. The intern will work closely with the Greatmore team in an environment of

skills sharing and interaction with staff, artists, and other stake holders, with increasing levels of responsibility within the organisation as the internship progresses. Self-motivation, good communication, interpersonal skills and a keen interest in the Arts are essential. For more information on requirements and remuneration, please contact [info@greatmoreart.org](mailto:info@greatmoreart.org) 021 447 9699 or 086 663 4830.

The "**Alfredo Guati Rojo**" **National Watercolour Museum** has invited SASA to take part in their the XI International Watercolor Biennial in Mexico City. Works will be selected once they arrive in Mexico and all work will be returned early in 2015. Please email Linda at [lindahe@vitalitybroadband.co.za](mailto:lindahe@vitalitybroadband.co.za) if you would like more information.

## Giving Up

From FineArtViews Daily Newsletter | Tuesday, March 18, 2014 | Issue 1765. Artist [Doug Hoppes](#) from the USA.

"Ever thought about it? Pack up the brushes or pen/ink and whatever you use and just stop. No more art. No more marketing of your work..... just get home from work and watch TV. Be like most people that we know. Ever thought about it?"

Sure, it would be a lot easier.

Not having to worry about how to pay for frames for the paintings. Not having to worry about where the money will come to pay for the art supplies (oil paints are not cheap). Not having to continuously struggle to get the drawing of a hand correct or figure out whether the shadow is cool or warm. Not worrying about paying for workshops and taking time off from work to do the workshop (for those who have a full-time job in addition to an art job). If you are hoping to make a career in art, then you would stop worrying about the competition and how to make it as an artist.

It would be a lot easier.

However, in my mind, if you really are meant to be an artist, you won't give up. It's part of who you are. Rather than having the fancy paper or pens, you'll get a ream of copy paper and a ballpoint pen and draw. Rather than having a fancy studio, you'll work at your desk... or dinner table... or wherever you can sit. Making art is not about having the fancy materials. It's about expressing yourself in the only way that you can imagine the world around you.

I know that there have been several times in my life that I was ready to give it all up. Be like everybody else. However, it's like an addiction. There's always that moment where you are just doodling on a piece of paper and then you start working... and working... and working. Next thing you know, you start getting out the books and reference images. Then, you start pulling out the paints.... then you're fully back into your "addiction".

It's who we are and what we do."

**Spend your days wisely with the best thoughts and works of those who have walked the road before you. Search their paths, their timeless inspirations, and the lineage of their genius. Learn your craft well and your talent will mature into its full possibility.** Charles Philip Brooks

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