



Society of Mountain Artists Inc.

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: NO 389

February 2026

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Falls 2782

Email

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Website/gallery:

www.mountainartists.org

Meetings: Wentworth Falls
School of Arts,
Great Western Highway,
Wentworth Falls 1pm

President: Anne Atwood 0402156142 anne@theatwoods.net	Geoff Tonge: 0405 625393	Patron: Robyn Collier
Vice President: Lida Szabunia 0493227187	Gordon Wright: 02 47841530	Public Officer: John Marsh
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT – February 2026

Welcome to 2026.

I hope that you had a good holiday and are ready to begin this exciting new year with SMA.

Our calendar is full already of demonstrations, workshops, exhibitions and Paint Togethers.

Please take note of the calendar in the newsletter and on our new website.

I do hope that you can join us at as many events as possible.

Last year we had 12 new members and we have already 1 new member this year. The SMA is growing from strength to strength because our members are contributing so much.

I would like to remind you about the AGM and elections in March. If you would like to become a member of the committee, please contact me on email or text as soon as possible. As yet we have no secretary and John Marsh, who has been a wonderful treasurer, is unable to continue in this role. Our society cannot exist if these positions are not filled because it means extra work for all those on the committee.

The committee is now organised so that everyone has a job to do. It means the workload is shared among all the members. Please think carefully about applying because our society can only function if we have more volunteers.

Next month, we will welcome the new patron of SMA, Robyn Collier. I hope you can be here for the AGM and the interview with Robyn.

I look forward to seeing you soon at the next demonstration.

Anne

Maya Angelou: " You can't use up creativity. The more you use the more you have."



MONTHLY MEMBERS EXHIBITIONS

First Prize is a \$25 voucher, redeemable at The Artists' Store, and a Highly Commended Award.

Entries can be any style or medium, old, or new work

February – Theme: Holidays

November Winners

A Touch of Red



Dennis West

First Prize



Marion Evans

Highly Commended

Bi-MONTHLY RAFFLE PRIZE for 2026

**Help raise funds for the Spring Exhibition. \$2 a ticket or \$5 for 3.
\$50 Voucher to be won in February, April, June, August and October**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Reminder to Members: If your membership expired please consider renewing it.

SPECIAL EVENTS

WORKSHOP ON MAKING AND DESIGNING CARDS

28th February 2026 Cost: \$ 50. A Fundraiser for SMA

Where: Wentworth Falls School of Arts

Time: 10am – 3pm

Morning Tea provided

Lunch: please bring something to eat at the School of Arts

**Bring: Pens or pencils and paper to sketch rough ideas for your cards
Paintings, drawings, collages and prints that you would usually discard.**

Workshop

Coral

Original artwork

Sourcing

Assemblage

Popular tropics

Anne

Equipment

Steps for echo dyeing

Length of time

Colour palette

Framing for card

Lewis

Equipment gel printing

Process

Tips

Framing for card

Lida

Making a collage

Techniques

Framing for cards

Printing verses producing original cards

When do you print

Pricing

Selling tips

Where to sell

WORKSHOP WITH ROSE GILBEY

21st March

Rose Gilbey - Fine Art Teacher

Rose grew up with art all around her. Her parents met while studying art at East Sydney Technical College so it was natural for Rose to follow in their footsteps.

Rose has produced art in many forms and is not limited to the traditional painting and drawing genre for example, after leaving school she became a Florist and worked in this trade for 30 or so years. This was a career in which she could combine her creativity and her love of nature as an art form.

After having a family and while still working as a florist, she decided to pursue her formal art education. After attaining an Associate Diploma in Fine Art at the Penrith Technical college, Rose completed a B.A of Fine Art at The National Art School in Sydney, majoring in painting and drawing. Her work has been shown in group and solo exhibitions and now resides in many private collections both here in Australia and overseas.

As an artist Rose's work is often based on nature and the simple beauty of things around her. Rose has taught art at TAFE, secondary school level and in community colleges. She takes great pleasure in enhancing the natural ability of her students using media such as graphite, charcoal, pastel and paint to name a few. Together with her ability for painting and drawing comes her love of creating and sharing her knowledge. She believes that behind every work of art there should be a strong foundation of drawing and composition.

Details to be Announced at a Later Date



Demonstration 19th February
Christine Hyde: Alcohol Inks
Visual Artist, Painter, Blue Mountains Australia
FINALIST St Columba Art Prize



Alcohol inks are fast-drying, acid-free, dye-based paints that create vibrant, fluid, and abstract art on non-porous surfaces like Yupo paper, glass, and metal. Highly versatile, these solvent-based inks are manipulated using isopropyl alcohol or blending solutions to create intense, transparent layers. Popular brands include Jacquard Pinata and Tim Holtz.

Key Aspects of Alcohol Inks:

- **Surfaces:** Ideal for non-porous materials such as Yupo paper, metal, glass, resin, and ceramic tiles.
 - **Tools & Techniques:** Applied using droppers, brushes, or felt tools; manipulated with air blowers, hairdryers, or isopropyl alcohol for blending.
 - **Effect:** They create translucent, free-flowing, and, when dried, reworkable designs.
 - **Safety:** Must be used in a well-ventilated area due to the alcohol-based solvent.
 - **Additives:** Metallic, pearl, and white mixes can be added for texture and depth.
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**Management Committee meeting: First Monday of each month.
Next meeting 2nd March, 1pm. All SMA members are welcome to attend.**

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR 2026

Date	Time	Event	Location
FEBRUARY 2026			
4 th February	1.00 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.	Management Committee Meeting	RSL Club Lurline St Katoomba. SMA Member's welcome
5 th February 1 st Thursday of the Month	10.00am – 1.00 p.m.	Paint Together	School of Arts Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls \$5
19 th February 3 rd Thursday of the Month	12:30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Demonstration Christine Hyde Alcohol Inks Mini Exhibition “Holidays “	School of Arts Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls \$5
28 th February 4 th Saturday of the Month	10.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Workshop Making Cards	School of Arts Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls \$5
MARCH 2026			
2 nd March 1 st Monday of the Month	1.00 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.	Management Committee Meeting	RSL Club, Lurline St Katoomba. SMA Member's welcome
5 th March 1 st Thursday of the Month	10.00am – 1.00 p.m.	Paint Together	School of Arts Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls \$5
19 th March 3 rd Thursday of the Month	12:30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	AGM Elections Meeting our new Patron Robyn Collier Mini Exhibition “Urban Landscape”	School of Arts Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls \$5
21 st March	TBA	Rose Gilbey Workshop	School of Arts, W/Falls Details tba
28 th March	10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.	Paint Together	School of Arts Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls \$5

APRIL 2026			
30th March 5 th Monday of the Month	1.00 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.	Management Committee Meeting	RSL Club, Lurline St Katoomba SMA Member's welcome
2 nd April 1 st Thursday of the Month	10.00am – 1.00 p.m	Paint Together	School of Arts Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls \$5
16 th April 3 rd Thursday of the Month	12:30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Demonstration Cheryl Simpson Acrylic Mini Exhibition "Autumn"	School of Arts Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls \$5
25 th April 4 th Saturday of the Month	10.00am – 1.00 p.m	Paint Together	School of Arts Great Western Highway Wentworth Falls \$5



"These days I'm living mostly on gallery openings food and drinks."