

SHOALHAVEN ART SOCIETY INC.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday 17 February 2025, 5 pm
Venue: Nowra Library Meeting Room

1. Present

Ann Sudmalis, Keith Dewell, Julie Carter, Anne Gardner, Stephen Connolly, Anne Norman, Kelvin Taylor (Chair), Gen Partridge (Minute Taker), Philip Miles, Abbey Giles, James Wei, John Brassil, Anne Fry, Col Darley, Cindy Florence, Emma Veiga-Malta, Xi Chen

2. Apologies

Roslyn Wilson, Debra Quartararo, Carol Davies

3. Approval of previous Annual General Meeting minutes

Minutes of the previous Annual General meeting held 5 February 2024 were approved.

4. Presentation of Life Membership to Ann Sudmalis and Col Darley

Kelvin Taylor presented Life Membership trophies to Ann Sudmalis and Col Darley, thanking both for their tireless dedication to and efforts on behalf of the Art Society over many years.

5. President's Report

Kelvin Taylor presented the President's report (see attached).
The report was moved, seconded and passed.

6. Treasurer's Report

Ann Sudmalis presented the Treasurer's report (see attached).
The report was moved, seconded and passed.

7. The President declared all positions vacant and handed over to the Returning Officer, Ann Sudmalis

8. Election of new committee as per Section 8 c) of the Constitution

Nomination forms were received from the following members to fill positions on the Committee:

- President (Chair) Kelvin Taylor
- Vice President (Vice Chair) Col Darley
- Treasurer John Brassil
- Secretary Gen Partridge
- Committee Members with portfolios:
 - Communications Facilitator Debra Quartararo
 - Sponsorship Officers Anne Gardner
Anne Norman
 - Workshop Co-ordinators Anne Fry
Ros Wilson

As they were no nominations from the floor the above nominations were accepted.

There were no nominations received for the following positions:

- Fundraising Co-ordinator
- Promotions/Publicity Officer
- Social Media Co-ordinator

Emma Veiga-Malta advised although she had the skill set to take on the Social Media Co-ordinator but she had too many other commitments. Ann S advised Debra Q was discussing with a member the potential of them taking on the Social Media Co-Ordinator position.

Stephen Connolly nominated from the floor to be the 2nd Vice President. Stephen's nomination was moved, seconded and accepted.

- General Committee members

No nominations had been received prior to the meeting.

The following nominations for General Committee members from the floor were accepted:

- Keith Dewell
- Julie Carter
- Abbey Giles
- James Wei
- Emma Veiga-Malta
- Carol Davies
- Xi Chen

Agreed:

Ann Sudmalis to be accepted as a Committee member until May to report on and finalise the Create NSW Grant (Celebrate Currarong, Jervis Bay and Shoalhaven)

9. Declaration/s of conflict of interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest from members of the new Committee.

10. Public Officer appointed by new Committee

John Brassil was appointed Public Officer by the Committee.

The following motion was moved, seconded and carried:

Subject to the election of a new Public Officer, this AGM requires that the Department of Fair Trading Form A9 be lodged within 14 days of the date of this meeting.

11. Bank account signatories

The following motion was moved, seconded and carried:

The following office bearers **were** approved as signatories for the bank accounts of the Shoalhaven Art Society.

President Kelvin Taylor (current signatory)

Secretary Genevieve Partridge

Treasurer John Brassil

Sponsorship Officer Anne Gardner (current signatory)

Agreed:

Ann Sudmalis to stay as a signatory until the end of April 2025 to finalise the Create NSW Grant (Celebrate Currarong, Jervis Bay and Shoalhaven)

12. Proposed amendment to Constitution

The following amendment to S 4 f) was moved, seconded and carried:

the annual subscription payable by members of The Society shall be such as the Committee determines, and these will be as follow until the Committee resolves otherwise:

Member description	Annual subscription
Full member	\$40
Junior member	\$10

Ann S advised the change in the annual subscription needs to be registered with Department of Fair Trading Form A6.

13. Lodging of Forms with Department of Fair Trading

The following motion was moved, seconded and carried:

All costs associated with lodging Department of Fair Trading Forms, (Form A6 cost is \$62 plus use of card fee; change of public officer form is free; annual summary Tier 2 is \$56 plus card fees.) to be reimbursed after the Treasurer has received proof of lodgement, and completed a reimbursement form.

14. Honorary Auditor of 2024 Financial Statements

Ann S advised that the previous auditors were Hieattcorp Accountants at 50 Junction Street Nowra.

Action:

John B to contact previous auditors to audit 2024 and 2025 Financial Statements

15. Meeting close

The Annual General Meeting closed at 5.35pm

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to provide a President's Report highlighting activities and achievements of the Shoalhaven Art Society over the past 12-months.

First and foremost I would like to give universal thanks and appreciation to my fellow committee members highlighting the passion, enthusiasm, and time everyone has committed to making the Society a wonderful avenue for creative expression and art fellowship.

This past year has seen us stretch ourselves across a number of successful group exhibitions, workshops and individual artist shows. It must be said, all this has taken place amidst a general sentiment of cost of living pressure and I commend all members of the Society for their continued drive to produce artworks of outstanding quality and variety and for their continued interest in making the Society a vibrant place of sharing and learning. Of note was a very successful Easter Art Sale held at Pyree in conjunction with the Shoalhaven Potters. We were most pleased to be able to donate a portion of funds raised from the event to the William Campbell College.

The Open Art Exhibition held at the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery in November 2024 featured a record number of adult and youth entries with over 180 artworks on exhibit and while our general sponsorship was lighter than previous years we continued the tradition of acquisitive art sales and awards from H Parsons Funeral Services and Nowra Truck and Tractor. General reports received from both artists and visitors was that the exhibition was the most professional and high quality exhibition to be held by the Society at the venue.

I would like to take this opportunity to single out the work of Ann Sudmalis, ably supported by Col Darly and his construction team, for their selfless dedication to actioning the Create NSW Grants program and launching the Vineyard Vibes art and entertainment event over the Father's Day weekend in August. Thanks also go to Anne Fry and Ros Wilson for coordinating a most successful artist workshop series as part of the grants program. All their work is much appreciated.

This past year the Society has also made great strides in relation to our systems and processes, in particular our member communications via our website, a rebooted newsletter format, and general email communications. This is an area we plan to invest more in the coming year to help elevate and raise awareness of the Society's activities, seek valuable member feedback, and present a professional public face.

Encouraging youth artists is also an area we wish to continue to develop. The awards and prizes offered to youth artists as part of our Open Art Exhibition and the HSC New Horizons sponsorships are both important avenues for the Society and something we wish to build upon moving forward.

The past year however has not been without its challenges, in particular managing the increased costs associated with exhibiting in general and the more recent pressures coming to bear through the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery that may impact how we move forward with our Open Art Exhibition in 2025 and beyond. The continued search

for a more permanent, suitable and affordable premises from which the Society may meet, run workshops and host exhibitions is a priority we continue to press into. Another area for potential growth and to enhance our artistic endeavours, is to form associations with other likeminded art groups and to embark on day trips to visit regional and city galleries, artist speaking events and exhibitions.

In summary, I would like to thank all members for your continued belief and interest in the goals, ambitions and activities of the Society, for without active members we do not have a vibrant Society and art is a wonderful medium to help lift the spirit and bring joy to our lives.

Many thanks, I look forward to a positive 2025 and stay creative!

Kelvin Taylor, President.

Treasurers Report for Jan -December 2024

We began the year with \$54,053.72.

Membership for the entire year may include some doubles as people may have paid last January for this year and have already paid for 2025. However, the total income for membership is \$3840.

We received income from Exhibition fees: OAE, Vineyard Vibes and Pyree = \$6295
Our Sponsorship Income was a little lower than usual and we will need to address this, \$8750

Pyree with its mix of sales items has a total of \$10,779.84, Vineyard Vibes was \$1,101.50 and the OAE was \$6,050.

Total sales from the raffle \$780, although there needs to be consideration of some sales which were listed as cash on the square from the OAE, but these are not yet banked. They will need to be summarised in the next financial year, 2025.
Income from the workshops was \$2100, although some of these were subsidised because of the grant.

The costs of our venue hire have increased considerably, and different inputs were required from the Shoalhaven Regional Gallery which were not previously charged. Costs of Venues includes commission on sales.

Artists received \$12,459.60 for their works, keeping in mind that the society retains some commission on sales. Artists in our region have received \$10,800 in prizes, this includes the Prizes we award for the HSC local works (\$300).

There are significant charges in PayPal and these have contributed to our \$1,134.71 financial fee burden along with the % charged by using the Square. We receive little or no interest in our accounts and it may be something for the committee to consider in 2025. Admin/ compliance are the costs for our insurances and Department of Fair Trading forms. Admin digital includes Canva, GoDaddy and other aspects of being digitally engaged. This also includes the various advertising we have used during 2024.

Our Closing balance total is \$30,761.36, but please keep in mind that we have one more grant amount, NSWARNRA011, \$4,675. A change of purpose for the final grant, "Celebrating Currarong" was submitted to Create NSW following the last general meeting. This has been approved and will need to be reconciled by April 30th 2025. The new grant is named "Celebrating Currarong, Jervis Bay and the Shoalhaven" Expenses have been designed for banners, corflutes and other publicity items for the three groups. We are currently awaiting final PDF designs so the process can be completed.