

TOP OF THE TORRENS

art gallery newsletter

| July 2023 |



Celebrating Creativity

Dates at a glance:

Current Exhibition:

'A Creative Journey'

SALA Members Exhibition

now showing until 27th August

Next Exhibition:

'Gawler Art Group'

showing 3rd September

to 15th October

Annual General Meeting:

Tuesday 12th September 2023

10 am at the Gallery

All Members are encouraged to demonstrate your support and please attend

Material for future newsletters can be left at the gallery marked:

Attention-Rosie Trenerry

or emailed to:

tott@tottgallery.com.au

Please type TOTT NEWSLETTER in the subject field.

On a typical cold July winter's day it was pleasing for me to see so many of our TOTT members, their families and friends come along to the opening of our latest exhibition 'A Creative Journey'.

31 of our member artists are exhibiting their work in one of our most high profile events - SALA; the South Australian Living Artists Festival, a statewide festival of visual art.

The Festival was established in 1998 to promote and celebrate the many talented visual artists in South Australia. SALA is a state-wide showcase and celebration of South Australia's living visual artists. Artists working at any stage of their career and in any medium are able to make, share and receive recognition for their work annually, during August. So, thank you to our fabulous artists.

TOTT was fortunate to have Deputy Mayor of the Adelaide Hills Council, Nathan Daniell to officially open this year's SALA exhibition. As I soon discovered in my initial discussion with Nathan and in his opening remarks to the audience, Nathan is an enthusiastic supporter of the arts, especially in the Adelaide Hills. Nathan shared his views on how important he believes that local government is to groups like TOTT, helping to enable artists to develop and exhibit their work.

Whilst local government cannot provide the same financial support as State or Commonwealth governments, they can facilitate programs to help support volunteer art groups. One such program is the Community Grants scheme which this year has enabled TOTT to enhance the front garden area of the gallery with a streetscape art project.

Local artist Adrian Beacham has created the metal sculpture 'Angas' the goanna, as a feature attraction for TOTT and the town of Birdwood.

You will find an image of Angas later in this bulletin, however I encourage you to come along and meet Angas 'in person' soon - he highly recommends you also venture on into the warmth of the gallery to discover the other treasures inside!

John Ragless

TOTT Committee Chairperson

Sincere thanks

go out to the hardworking team of TOTT Members who have helped convene, co-ordinate, register and ultimately stage our 2023 SALA exhibition.

With such a diverse array of beautiful creations needing to share one relatively small space, 'staging' such an exhibition is not without its challenges.

One such challenge is to group together items from varying media so as to present a series of scenes or vistas, the success of which depends on each 'gathering' effectively leading the viewer to the next with pleasurable ease, never being completely sure of what delights are about to be discovered.

Welcome to...

'A Creative Journey'

We proudly present the creative works of:

Jill Allanson	Rosene Kotz
Jenny Anderson	Samantha Kotz
Peter Austin	Barry Liddicoat
Ann Beacham	Viv Liddicoat
Adrian Beacham	Charles Mace
Karina Cuttle	Anna McKenzie
Annette Dawson	Christine Murphy
Talia Dawson	Mike Painter
Joe Dennis	John Ragless
Jenny Denton	Rosemary Rowe
Karen Duthy	Alice Shore
Bill Elliot	Rosie Trenerry
Lynda Fanshaw	John Weight
Sarah Fawcett	Rae Winter
Leon Holmes	



Greeting visitors on arrival at the gallery, are:

- * a beautiful hand-tinted lino-print by Talia Dawson
- * a luxurious felted scarf by Jenny Denton
- * a magnificent glass sculpture by Ann Beacham



In making this stunning exhibition piece, Barry Liddicoat has fulfilled a long-held desire to try steam bending timber.

The development involved making moulds for all of the different shapes, soaking and then steaming all of the timbers before gluing and clamping the laminates into the moulds again, to ensure each piece achieved the required shape.

From first drawing it full size on a sheet of custom wood, to being able to comfortably sit back and rock in the finished product took many weeks and in Barry's words "was very satisfying".

Welcome to...

'A Creative Journey'

An exhibition of mixed media by the artists and crafts people of Top of the Torrens Gallery, Birdwood

Now showing 11am to 4pm Wednesday to Monday until 27th August



Wall art

covering a myriad of subjects, styles & techniques

Timber

creations ranging from intricate decorative sculpture, wearable art & home decorator items to furniture

Textiles

to wear, keep you warm, decorate your home & more

Metal sculpture

to enhance your home and garden

Glass, Ceramics &

Jewellery

to brighten & adorn your home, life, body & soul

Introducing ANGAS...

At the opening of the 2023 TOTT SALA exhibition on Sunday 9th July, visitors and members were introduced to the TOTT Gallery's newest member, **Angas**.

Angas is a 2.1 m long perentie (*Australia's largest goanna*) and is proudly looking out to welcome visitors to Birdwood and the Gallery.

He is the creation of local artist Adrian Beacham and was made from 135 recycled horseshoes. The surrounding garden has also had a revamp with some native plants and feature rocks, on a bed of wood chips.

This art installation was made possible with the aid of a community grant, funded by the Adelaide Hills Council.

After opening the exhibition Deputy Mayor Nathan Daniell took a closer look at Angas and was very impressed with the installation. He was thanked by TOTT gallery Chair John Ragless for the council's valuable, continued support of the gallery and local art.

Originally, Angas was named after the Angas Creek, that feeds into the Torrens.

On further investigation, we found that much of Blumberg (Birdwood) was settled on land leased from George Fife Angas who was instrumental in colonising South Australia.

His son, George French Angas, was an explorer, naturalist, painter and poet.

He produced many of South Australia's early paintings, a number of which are held in our National and state art galleries and museums.

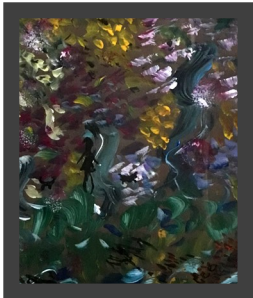
It seems that Angas was indeed the perfect choice of name.



ANGAS (in the foreground above), pictured with his creator Adrian Beacham (left), Nathan Daniell Deputy Mayor Adelaide Hills Council (centre) and John Ragless TOTT Gallery Chairperson (right)

A poster for the Top of the Torrens Gallery Birdwood exhibition schedule. The poster features a background image of a tree and a list of exhibitions with their dates. The text on the poster includes: 'TOP OF THE TORRENS GALLERY BIRDWOOD', 'CAPTURED' by Jill Allanson, John Wallace and Friends (5 February - 19 March), 'A TRIO OF TREATS' by Rosene Katz, Samantha Katz and Penny Vero (26 March - 7 May), 'ARTISANS IN AUTUMN' by Maker's Exhibition (14 May - 2 July), 'A CREATIVE JOURNEY' by SALA - South Australian Living Artist's Exhibition (9 July - 27 August), 'GAWLER ART GROUP' (3 September - 15 October), 'OFF THE COUCH ART GROUP' (22 October - 3 December), and 'AN ECLECTIC MIX' by Summer Member's Exhibition (10 December - 28 January 2024). The poster also includes contact information: 9 Shannon Street, Birdwood, PH 8568 5577, Open Wednesday until Monday 11am to 4pm including Public Holidays, www.tottgallery.com.au, and social media icons for Facebook and Instagram.

Artist of the month - June



Alice Shore

Artist of the month - July



Rosemary Rowe





Many thanks go to Terry Davenport for providing live musical accompaniment to further enhance the warm convivial atmosphere at the opening of 'A Creative Journey' .

TOTT Member Artist Rosie Trenergy was also on-hand to explain the various techniques & tools involved in the making of her collection of sterling silver and mixed metal jewellery. Rosie is seen [far left] chatting to interested visitors who were well rugged up to cope with the wintery conditions.

SALA South Australian Living Artists Festival

The Official SALA program is now available for viewing on-line at www.salafestival.com with copies of the physical program shortly becoming available for collection from the TOTT Gallery as well as the hundreds of other SALA venues across the state.

Supplies of the TOTT exhibition flyer are also now available, so when you call in to view our wonderful exhibition, please take some flyers with you to distribute throughout your network to help 'spread the word'.

A number of our talented artists are once again exhibiting in multiple venues - here are a couple that we are aware of to add to your SALA trail.

Whilst the **TOTT exhibition is NOW SHOWING**, the majority of SALA exhibitions commence at end of the month and throughout August. Check out the details online & *Enjoy!*

Reclaimed
An artistic journey in recycled metal
by metal artist Adrian Beacham

Location: Lyndoch Lavender Farm & Cafe
407 Tweedies Gully Road, Lyndoch
Ph:08 8524 4538 <https://lyndochlavenderfarm.com.au>
(open 10:00AM to 4:30PM daily)

Opening: 30th July 2023 @ 1130 AM
Concludes 31st August 2023

Metal rose making demonstrations on
5th, 6th & 19th August (12PM to 2PM)



Storyteller

SALA

SPRINGTON GALLERY
Graetz Terrace, Springton SA 5235
OPEN 10am-4:30pm Saturdays and Sundays 29 July - 27 August



Frida and Diego: Love and Revolution

now showing

at The Art Gallery of SA

24 Jun – 17 Sep 2023

Galleries 22, 23, 25

Ticketed exhibition

Tours at 3pm

Works by two of the most influential and loved artists of the twentieth century – Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera – feature in this exhibition, alongside works by key Mexican contemporaries.

Love, passion and politics lie at the heart of *Frida & Diego*. The couple, radical in their art and politics, were at the forefront of the artistic and cultural avant-garde in post-revolution Mexico from the 1920s to the 1950s. Today they are worshipped globally for their fusion of traditional Mexican folk art and international modernism.

Featuring more than 150 works, including paintings, works on paper, photographs and period clothing, this major exhibition from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection positions Kahlo and Rivera within the broader context of Mexican Modernism. It also includes works by Manuel and Lola Álvarez Bravo, Miguel Covarrubias, María Izquierdo, Carlos Mérida, David Alfaro Siqueiros and others.

Frida & Diego: Love & Revolution introduces Australian audiences to the intimate everyday stories of life and love as well as the grand narratives surrounding the political, social and cultural identity of Mexico and its peoples over the twentieth century.

Source <https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/frida-diego-love-revolution/>

Other exhibitions – These are free

[Ramsay Art Prize](#) / Curator: Erin Davidson

27 May – 27 August 2023

Free exhibition

Congratulations to Ida Sophia, winner of the \$100,000 Ramsay Art Prize 2023.

Her work *Witness*, is a performance-based video.

[Milton Moon: Crafting modernism](#) / Curator: [Rebecca Evans](#)

6 May – 6 August 2023

Free exhibition

Ann Davenport

<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/>



Regardless of the weather,
you can be assured of
a bright, warm welcome when you visit
Top of the Torrens Gallery & Gift Shop

9 Shannon St, Birdwood SA - OPEN Wednesday to Monday 11 am to 4 pm

- please call in and see us soon -

above: 'A winters dawn' as seen from the Editor's desk