

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Introducing

HELEN LINDQVIST



***A little about me**

I am retired from teaching a diverse range of ages, helping my husband Bruce manage Adare Conference Centre & Caravan Park and office assistant at Adare Church. I am now happily involved with family, locally and in the Hills, Trinity Church, VHAS and South Coast Choral & Arts Society. Bruce and I love caravanning and we have explored Australia extensively. While away we love walking, observing wildlife, visiting historic places, 4WD ing and finding good subjects to paint – often while Bruce fishes or does a long walk.

***My Inspiration**

The artists that inspire me most are **Hans Heysen** and **John Mathieson**.

My inspiration for painting is mainly to relax. I get totally absorbed in the enjoyment of painting and hopefully the pleasure of the end result. My subjects are things I admire in the creation surrounding us – animals, birds, flowers, seascapes, landscapes but I also love painting historic or quaint old buildings – usually with pen and wash.

I love watercolour and the amazing way it behaves particularly with “wet in wet”. If there is a need for detail, I will use pen first and then add watercolour as needed. I also love pastel and pastel pencil for its vibrancy of colour. It is so totally different to watercolour, but I love both. My ‘studio’ is a small bedroom so there is no more room to store any more mediums!



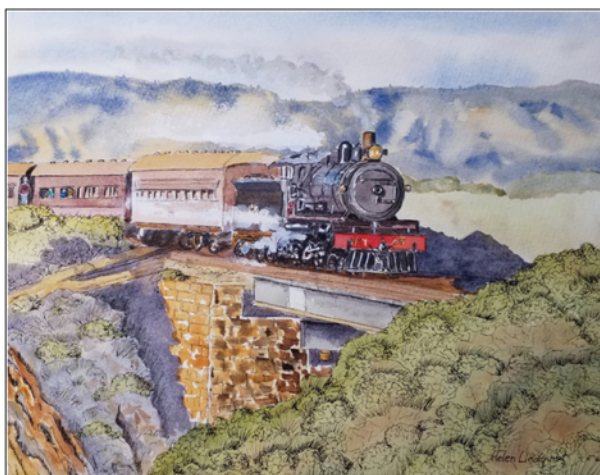
“Moonta House” Pen and Watercolour

***Previous training to get me where I am now**

I have had very little formal training in art – a term in Teachers’ College, a few workshops – with VHAS and previously on Yorke Peninsula and the Riverland. I attended **“Grampians Brushes”** in Halls Gap 4 times and was inspired by **Julian Bruere, Ross Patterson and Julie Goldspink**.



*“1925 Dodge at Holowiliena Station”
Pen and Watercolour*



*Afghan Express- Pichi Richi Railway
Pen and Watercolour*

I have had many lessons with **John Mathieson** locally. His expertise was pen and wash, but he also taught me the pleasures of watercolour and ensuring I got the drawing correct – including perspective, composition and the finer details of drawing.

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*My goals for the future

My main goal in painting, both now and in the future, is enjoyment, encouraging other artists and having the excitement of selling a painting knowing that someone out there likes my work enough to buy it. I also get a lot of satisfaction from making cards from copies of my artwork. I think one of the strong points of my art is that I don't have a particular style. My subject matter is very varied.

Right: "Bee"
Watercolour



Below:
"Albert on the New
Causeway"
Pastel

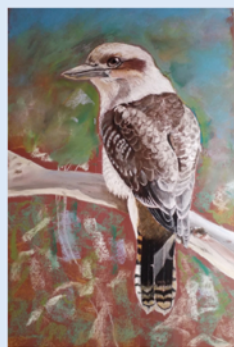


Above: "Farmhouse at World's End - Burra"
Pen and Watercolour

Below:
"Sailing at Narrung"
Pastel



Below: "Loch Ard Gorge"
Pastel



"Kookaburra" Showing various progression stages in Pastel
(P.S. Hopefully you saw the final one at our Art Exhibition in May?)

I find the biggest challenges as an artist are motivation and time. Choosing the subject of a new painting, which medium and size is best and being aware of the future frame as Bruce does quite a bit of my framing and often from recycled frames. Time is a tricky one too – I am involved with quite a few things, and I also like to be available for family. I have to push myself to make time and get stuck into a new project. Once I am started, I have no trouble sticking at it until I have a finished piece of art. If I am happy with the end result, it will be framed otherwise it is put in a folder as an example of what not to do or into the recycle bin!

I find being a member of VHAS is very encouraging and the other artists provide such a wide variety of inspiration in a friendly environment. I am continually amazed at the incredible talent the group exhibits.