

# TOP OF THE TORRENS

## art gallery newsletter

| December 2022 |



Welcome  
to new Members:

**Tori Bedford & John Weight**

Dates at a glance:

*Current Exhibition:*

**Celebrating Diversity**

- showing until 29th January 2023

*Next Exhibition:*

**Allanson / Wallace & Friends**

- 5th February to 19th March 2023

*Next General Meeting:*

**10th January 2023**

10 am Tuesday at the Gallery

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

**Attention-Rosie Trenerry**

or emailed to:

[tott@tottgallery.com.au](mailto:tott@tottgallery.com.au)

*Please type TOTT NEWSLETTER  
in the subject field.*

## Celebrating Diversity



December is with us again as another tricky year is drawing to a close, which also means that the TOTT exhibition space is now featuring the annual summer Members' display - this year entitled 'Celebrating Diversity'.

TOTT Chairperson John Ragless was on hand on Sunday 11th December to welcome the happy group of Members and Friends who had gathered for the opening of the exhibition, as well as to share in some festive good cheer and admire the creative works on display.

Exhibition co-ordinator Annette Dawson and her helpers received many compliments from visitors on the well staged collection of works which also include a range of unique hand crafted Christmas decorations in a variety of mediums.

A big thank you also goes to Rosemary Rowe for providing an array of tasty nibbles for visitors to enjoy.

'Celebrating Diversity' is on display for the remainder of December and throughout January and will be sure to provide a relaxing visual treat for everyone to enjoy during the festive season and new year.

Thank you to all of our Members and Friends for your valuable input during 2022, you are the life and soul of our community gallery and we could not continue to prosper without your continued support, hard work and fabulous creative output.

Our 2023 exhibition calendar is now fully subscribed, with details to be released early in the new year. We look forward to welcoming you to the ever changing TOTT exhibition space and gift shop again soon.

Wishing you and your families a safe and happy festive season.

*Rosie Trenerry*

- Editor TOTT News



# 'Celebrating Diversity'

Features the creative works of Top of the Torrens Members including :-

**Jill Allanson**  
**Jenny Anderson**  
**Ann Beacham**  
**Adrian Beacham**  
**Tori Bedford**  
**Margaret Benkis**  
**Jackie Cooper**  
**Karina Cuttle**  
**Annette Dawson**  
**Talia Dawson**

**Joe Dennis**  
**Jenny Denton**  
**Karen Duthy**  
**Lynda Fanshaw**  
**Sarah Fawcett**  
**Leon Holmes**  
**Rosene Kotz**  
**Samantha Kotz**  
**Charles Mace**  
**Anna McKenzie**  
**Christine Murphy**

**Mike Painter**  
**Alana Preece**  
**John Ragless**  
**Rosemary Rowe**  
**Alice Shore**  
**Rosie Trenerry**  
**John Weight**  
**Rae Winter**  
**Hayley Wright**  
**Lillian Wright**



From top:

Landscape by Leon Holmes; Whimsical Leadlight birds by Ann Beacham;

Miniature canvas's by Marg Benkis; Jewellery by Rosene Kotz; Wood-turned bowls by John Ragless

'Celebrating Diversity'



Featured Artists clockwise from top left:

John Weight, Jackie Cooper, Annette Dawson, Rosene Kotz, Tori Bedford, Hayley Wright, Christine Murphy

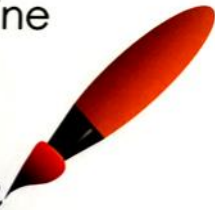


# Artist of the month - November



This month  
no bio,  
no work history.  
I am letting my art  
illustrate me.  
A face from the vine  
a fish, an owl and  
a stingless bee

*mike painter*



## Artist of the month - December

### **Vivienne Liddicoat**

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I have always loved to draw and my schoolbooks had lots of illustrations, as well as the blackboards when I was teaching.

In the eighties I completed a Ceramic Certificate and spent the next 16 years making and selling pottery from home.

I really enjoyed the aspects of design and glazing. We went to many art and craft fairs with the trailer loaded up to the roof.

In 1990 I was a founding member, became secretary for 10 years, then a life member, of the Tanderra Craft Village in Whyalla and I also sold pottery every month through a shop there.

In 2002 I joined the Whyalla Art Group for a gentler lifestyle and quickly discovered a love for Watercolour painting.

I am still fascinated by how the paint moves around the paper with a mind of its own.

When we moved to Springton in 2012 I joined the Top of the Torrens Gallery and have also enjoyed being part of SALA in Springton.

I have exhibited around SA over the years - Whyalla, Hawker, Cleve Field Days, Clare, Murray Bridge and Victor Harbour, having had good success with sales and watercolour prizes.

Painting the grandchildren, still life and birds gives me great pleasure and there is always something new to learn.





## What's on now at AGSA?



### Looking for a break from the hectic pre-Christmas schedule or an interesting place to take your visitors over the summer?

The Art Gallery of South Australia is just the place as there are plenty of new and exciting exhibitions to see.

Last month I mentioned several including Gerry Wedd's *WAVE* (19 Oct 2022 - 8 Jan 2023) and Nalini Malani: *Gamepieces* (5 Nov 2022 - 22 Jan 2023).

Here are some others that have recently opened.

- **Ann Davenport** Reference: <https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/>

## Rethinking Australian Art

Ongoing Free entry **Gallery 6**

This series of displays highlights the complex and radical changes that occurred in Australian art after World War II, including the revelation of Aboriginal art, the Feminist art movement and the rise of conceptual art and post modernism.

If you attend a Collection Tour, (11am and 2pm daily) ask the guide to show you this display.

## The Nature of Culture

On until 16 April 2023 - Free entry **Gallery 7**

*The Nature of Culture* presents recent acquisitions from the Gallery's collection of **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art**. It features paintings, sculpture and woven works which showcase the diversity of styles, materiality and making across regions throughout Australia. It also reflects the many ways people express their cultural connections to Country.

For more information <https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/the-nature-of-culture/>

## Bewilderness: Recent acquisitions

26 Nov 2022 - 16 Apr 2023, **Galleries 9, 10, 11** Free entry

This exhibition features landscapes, showcasing recent acquisitions in painting, printmaking, and sculpture to examine our physical and psychological experiences of place.

For more information <https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/recent-acquisitions/>

### *Here's one of my favourites:*

Nicholas Harding (1956-2022)

**Brachina**, 2016, Sydney, Oil on linen

*We camped in Brachina Gorge (Flinders Ranges) several times in the 1970s and 80s, and it brings back all those memories.*



## Sera Waters: Future Traditions

26 Nov 2022 - 16 Apr 2023 **Gallery 8** Free entry

In this second exhibition for her Guildhouse Fellowship, South Australian artist Sera Waters imagines a new future for us all – one where ancient textile traditions can craft hope in the face of climate change.

For more information <https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/sera-waters-future-traditions/>

## Interwoven Journeys: The Michael Abbott collection of Asian art

Open 3 Dec 2022 – 2 Jul 2023 in **Galleries 19, 20, 21** Free entry.

This exhibition celebrates the many remarkable gifts to AGSA from South Australian barrister Michael Abbott, AO KC. Abbott developed a fascination for Asian textiles — their materiality, meaning and capacity to carry rich cultural traditions. *Interwoven Journeys* invites visitors to experience the breadth of South Asian and South East Asian art and includes a focus on Balinese, Sumatran and Javanese textiles, including the world's oldest dated Javanese batik, exhibited for the first time.

For more information

<https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/interwoven-journeys-the-michael-abbott-collection-of-asian-art/>



On behalf of the  
TOTT committee

I wish all our  
members, family  
and our friends  
a very happy  
Christmas.

For me, Christmas is a time for family, where we can all get together to share the goodness of Christmas - I hope you will be able to share this time with family.

Top of the Torrens has had a prosperous 2022 with some very diverse exhibitions. I encourage you to visit our current exhibition 'Celebrating Diversity' - bring your family and friends, an ideal opportunity for those special Christmas gifts.

Lastly, I thank the members that give their time to making TOTT a shining example of a regional community gallery at its best.

Good wishes and a prosperous 2023,

**John Ragless,**  
Chairperson TOTT

## Information sharing via the TOTT Network....

In response to our article in the last edition of TOTT News regarding the value of belonging to a network, we thank Leon Holmes for sharing his discovery of **OIL STICKS** .....



"I was recently looking through some articles in a manual given to me some time ago about painting and drawing and all the various mediums. One article was about using oil sticks, I had never heard of them and was intrigued to find out more.

It detailed a step by step painting of a landscape. The result was a very attractive impressionist painting. I was hooked because my own painting style was attempting to achieve that style although not very well. The article said that both Matisse and Van Gogh used them.

By allowing the oil to dry you can build up tone and layers of colour.

No pallet is required; you scribble colours on the paper first then with a rag dampened in turps blur the scribbles into each other. This initial scribbling and blurring seems to free up your arms and put a stop to too much detail at an early stage of the painting. There are lots of other techniques involved, this is just an outline.

I just had to try this method. I bought a basic selection of colours and with a sketch from a recent trip to the Flinders, I have done my first paintings using oil sticks. I'm tickled pink with the result, it's been a real breakthrough for me and very different to any of my paintings that I have done up to now."

**Leon Holmes**



With a myriad of high quality,  
affordable, original gift ideas on offer,

Top of the Torrens Gallery  
& Gift Shop

is the perfect spot to do your  
gift shopping all throughout the year

**We wish you a Merry Christmas**



**and a Happy New Year !**