

# NEWSLETTER

Number: 1904 (105)

April 2019



## From the chair



Dear Members and Friends,

ADFAS is in its 30<sup>th</sup> year and I had the pleasure of representing ADFAS Camden at the 30<sup>th</sup> (Pearl) Anniversary Cocktail Party in Sydney on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Having been involved with ADFAS Camden for over 11 years I know a lot about the ADFAS organisation but it was very interesting finding out more of how it began. Mrs Patricia Robertson, OAM, our current Patron, first became aware of NADFAS (now known as The Arts Society – TAS) in the mid 1980's on a trip to England. Patricia was encouraged by the NADFAS National Chairman to form an equivalent Society in her adopted city of Sydney and she returned to Australia armed with a manual of instructions and a determination to see ADFAS succeed.

Patricia settled to her task and soon found friends who formed the first committee and, although it was hard work putting an annual programme together, she had wonderful support. In Patricia's own words – *'In the beginning it was quite difficult to find the right kind of lecturer. University lecturers weren't always that well suited to it but Edmund Capon had been the Director of the Art Gallery of NSW since 1978 and was already a NADFAS lecturer and he agreed to be our President and to deliver the inaugural ADFAS lecture. After that things just grew. ADFAS Canberra was established in 1987 and then Melbourne, Scone, Geelong, Bowral, Shoalhaven and so on and, eventually, we were able to create a cost-effective lecture circuit'*.

There are now 37 incorporated Societies across Australia in three circuits and a steering committee is operating in Perth this year which aims to become the 38<sup>th</sup>.

What an amazing organisation to be a part of. Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ADFAS.

Of course it wasn't all champagne and cake for the two days I attended Sydney. All chairmen and observers attended very well-organised workshops designed to assist us in running our own Societies. We had two very full days with a Council meeting and the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting when ADFAS Elected Officers and Executive Committee were announced for the 2019/2020 year. ADFAS will continue to thrive under the new committee.

I am sure that all in attendance at Dr Rodna Siebels' lecture on 6<sup>th</sup> April were enlightened by her *'La Description de l'Egypte'* and, continuing on a slightly different aspect of the Napoléonic era, I am sure you are all looking forward to our first Special Interest Programme of the year *'Not Tonight Joséphine'* on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May. That may seem a long time away but there is plenty to keep you occupied during May. Don't forget to visit the 44<sup>th</sup> Camden Art Prize and the *'Drawing Life'* exhibition at the Alan Baker Art Gallery.

Sincerely,

*Carla,*

Carla Hill, Chairwoman



### 2019 LECTURE SERIES

#### Lecture 3:

**1066 AND ALL THAT**  
The Bayeux Tapestry – what does it really depict?

Presented by:

**MARTIN HEARD**

**SATURDAY 01 JUNE 2019**

4 for 4.30 pm

**Carrington Recreation Centre**

Gate 2, 90 Werombi Road,  
Grasmere NSW 2570

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Lecture 4:

**AUGUST IN IRAN IN A HEADSCARF**

Presented by:

**JENNIFER BOWKER**

**SATURDAY 29 JUNE 2019**

4 for 4.30 pm

**Carrington Recreation Centre**

Gate 2, 90 Werombi Road,  
Grasmere NSW 2570

**For more information & bookings, contact:**

**Secretary: Linda Inglis**

**Mob: 0428 825 386**

**Email:**

[linda.inglis@westnet.com.au](mailto:linda.inglis@westnet.com.au)

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> MAY**

**TWO-LECTURE**

**SPECIAL INTEREST PROGRAMME**

5.30 for 6.00 pm, Carrington Recreation Hall  
90 Werombi Road, Grasmere

## *Not tonight Joséphine*



Empress Joséphine Bonaparte (1763-1814), first wife and consort of Napoleon, was a highly significant figure in her own right in post-Revolutionary and Napoleonic France.

**Lecture 1:** Will introduce us to Joséphine, her relationship with Napoleon, her patronage of artists & the decorative arts, and the British satirical prints that used her to attack Napoleon. **Lecture 2:** Will introduce us to the *Château de Malmaison*, and Joséphine's impressive art collection.

**Presented by:**

**MARTIN HEARD**

Art historian specialising in English and French 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Century art and architecture

VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME

MEMBERS \$45: VISITORS \$50

(Price includes a light meal between lectures)

BOOKING ESSENTIAL (by 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019):

For bookings or further information, ring:

**Linda: 0428 825 386 or Susan: 0499 636 885**

## Note from the Editor

I hope that those who attended Rodna Siebel's lecture on 6<sup>th</sup> April – *DESCRIPTION DE L'EGYPTE: Napoléon in Egypt 1798-1801*- enjoyed it as much as I did. How many of us knew that Napoléon took a large group of 'savants' with his army on his ill-fated military excursion into Egypt – and that their studies and records awakened European interest in that country and formed the basis for the establishment of Egyptology as an area of academic research? At the time, of course, their work also produced another source of friction between France and England as both countries competed for the archaeological 'spoils' that were being discovered.

And then there was the ex-circus strongman, Giovanni Battista Belzoni, with his rather 'interesting' archaeological methods!

As members will be aware, Trevar Langlands interviewed Rodna on air (100.3FM) on the Wednesday before her lecture. He has kindly provided me with a CD of the

interview and agreed that it could be made available to any member who would like to listen to it.

So...if you would like to borrow a copy of the CD please let me know and I will arrange delivery to you.

Peter Claxton

M: 0400 379 274; E: [pclaxton8@bigpond.com](mailto:pclaxton8@bigpond.com)



## Drawing LIFE

If you haven't already done so, take some time out to visit this exhibition in celebration of the Alan Baker Art Gallery's first anniversary.

The exhibition presents a suite of 20<sup>th</sup> Century drawings by Alan Baker, Normand Baker (Alan's brother and youngest winner of the Archibald Prize) and JS Watkins. It opened on 11<sup>th</sup> April and runs until 28<sup>th</sup> July and also features 'gallery inspired children's drawings'.

## PUBLIC PROGRAMME 2019

We've finally got our public program ready for you all! We hope you're just as excited as we are. Have a read through the e-version of our programming brochure (see attachment) to see what we've got in store, and then check the links below to take you straight to the bookings!

### TO BOOK:

#### Art After School:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BBNWR>

#### Watercolour for kids (school holidays):

<https://www.trybooking.com/BBVLY>

#### Printmaking for kids (school holidays):

<https://www.trybooking.com/BBVME>

#### National families week (free event):

<https://www.trybooking.com/BBOHZ>

#### Watercolour Fridays:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BBVQH>

#### Monthly En Plein Air (Outdoor Painting):

<https://www.trybooking.com/BBVOP>

#### Monthly Heritage Drawing Tour:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BBVNU>

#### Monthly life drawing (18+):

<https://www.trybooking.com/BBVPZ>

Send us an email for all further enquiries, we look forward to seeing you in our classes!

**ALAN BAKER AG:** Macaria, 37 John Street Camden

**Open:** Thurs – Sun 11 am to 4 pm

**Contact:** (02) 4645 5191

[Alanbakerartgallery@camden.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Alanbakerartgallery@camden.nsw.gov.au)

## Riversdale at Goulburn

Colin and I love to travel and we have travelled to many beautiful and incredible places including most of Australia ... but then it is often the places closest to home that you put on the 'back burner' as something to do, well... later. There is always something that will pin you down at home. Repairs and grandchildren and volunteering and it's easy to see the week go by without a memorable day spent relaxing. After all, they say most people are busier in retirement than when they had employment.

So, where to? Firstly, I needed to see the sea. A month or so ago we chose Bulli; coffee at the lookout, amazing panoramic views. It was overcast, chilly and with misty rain. Then down, down the escarpment to the beach, drive along to Kiama for lunch and "rats!" the Wharf Restaurant was stacking tables, but in town there was a sign for a Farmer's Market... on a Wednesday! Gözleme made as you waited and a kilo of freshly harvested, fully ripe tomatoes. What luck!

The next week up to Leura to the café that serves Belgian Chocolate Waffles. Changed hands, no waffles. It has been a few years since we enjoyed that gastronomic delight. Instead, drive amongst the beautiful streets and clifftop homes, bypassing the Three Sisters, who were actually visible, looking out to Mt Solitary and walk through Leura and Katoomba's CBD and visit the library and its art gallery. Haven't spent a cent.

The following week we headed south to Goulburn to Riversdale, a Georgian Pioneer homestead, a place we hoped to visit but we had arrived there too late a few years back. I again carefully noted the address and halfway down the Hume freeway found I had left it at home. The information centre at the railway station was a delightful browse, after, that is, we got over the shock of a troop of Tesla charging stations lined up on eight of the centre's parking slots (see photo below). General parking (1 hour) is allowed, but it fazed us! And, apparently these charging stations **only** couple with Tesla cars.



We obtained the Riversdale Homestead address and were told the house would close at 2:00pm! Oops! It was 12.45! Access is along a tree-lined pathway into the grounds

abutting the razor wire surrounding the supermaximum security prison. Originally where a small hotel had been built, John Richards began to construct an Inn in the 1820s. He died before the inn was built and his wife, Ann, a canny lady took over his business, very successfully. But that's another story.

In 1850 the inn became Goulburn Grammar School for six years. It seemed a squeeze for 25 boys to be boarding there, but our volunteer (National Trust) guide Dawn Giles told us some of the boys slept out on the verandah. (In Goulburn!!!) It then became the Criterion Hotel until John Fulljames purchased it for his family home, orchard and surrounding gardens. There were the Twynams after the Fulljames but I want to tell you about the amazing embroidery and craftwork carried out by one of John's daughters, Rebecca. She married Andrew Badgery at Sutton Forest and somehow found time to bear him nine children, not all of them surviving.



RIVERSDALE as it is now

The Fulljames family resided at Riversdale in the early 1860s and in that time the house was decorated with much of Rebecca's beautiful craft. She was a needlewoman of infinite delicacy. Three panels of embroidery are displayed on either side of the drawing room. Each panel would be at least 2 metres x 1 metre. It was hard to judge as the ceilings are around 4 metres high. Two were apple trees with Rosella parrots sitting amongst the branches laden with ripe apples. The Sydney Morning Herald had announced John had grown prize-winning apples. These two embroidered panels showed Rebecca's incredible skill. I had to look very hard to define them as embroidery, they were as though painted with a fine brush.

On the opposite wall was her panel of waratahs sewn with the finest of silk threads and capturing the majesty of these amazing wildflowers. You must see them if you appreciate fine craft. Not only could Rebecca embroider magnificently but also on display was a scene of poker work on three panels.



Waratah embroidery

In the 1870s Emily Rose Twynam, whose family took up residence after the Badgers, was also extremely artistic.

She carved wooden pieces, some of which are displayed in the drawing room such as a Jacobean chair with amazing carving on the arms. She was also renowned for her embroidery and she won a prize at the far flung Chicago International Exhibition in 1893.

And ... we were also extremely lucky to view the travelling collection of 40 pieces of Georgian glass tableware (c 1799-1840, the Havelberg-Smith bequest) on loan from Kirribilli House – on April 28<sup>th</sup> it moves on.



Pauline Downing April, 2019

## 44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL EXHIBITION CAMDEN ART PRIZE 2019

Presented by

**THE CAMDEN ART  
PRIZE COMMITTEE INC.**

ABN 83 059 610 350

to be held at the

**CAMDEN CIVIC CENTRE  
CAMDEN**

### OFFICIAL OPENING

by

**ROBERT MACKLIN**

Eminent journalist, author, biographer, historian  
and filmmaker:

**8.00 pm Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019**

The Exhibition is open from Friday evening 3<sup>rd</sup> May to  
Friday evening 10<sup>th</sup> May. Don't forget to visit the  
exhibition at which ADFAS Camden sponsors the:

**MARJORY BAKER MEMORIAL YOUTH AWARD \$750**

## Château de Malmaison

There is an interesting but quite unintended connection, in the person of Napoléon Bonaparte, between our last lecture and our first Special Interest Programme (SIP) for 2019.

Our April lecture revolved around Napoléon's Military venture into Egypt in 1798 and subsequent events there until 1801, and the subject of our SIP at the end of May is his first wife and consort, the Empress Joséphine Bonaparte. During the second half of the SIP, Martin Heard will be introducing us to the Château de Malmaison and Joséphine's impressive art collection which it housed. Martin will no doubt be concentrating on the art collection but there is more than that to the Château and Joséphine's influence and involvement.

Joséphine bought this manor house in Rueil-Malmaison in April 1799 for herself and her then husband, the young General Napoléon Bonaparte, who at the time was away in Egypt on his ill-fated military campaign. She spent well over 300,000 francs on the purchase of what was a run-down estate, with the house needing extensive and expensive renovation – all of which she paid for from funds she expected Napoléon to return with following a 'successful' time in Egypt!

To say Napoléon was cranky on his return in late 1799, having been defeated on sea (Battle of the Nile) and land (Siege of Acre) and leaving his defeated army behind in Egypt, would be an understatement and his state of mind was certainly not improved on discovering how much money Joséphine had already invested in the Château de Malmaison. Ultimately, however, the estate was to bring great happiness to the Bonapartes and Joséphine's daughter, Hortense, reportedly described it as 'a delicious spot'.

The estate was about 12 km west of Paris and included around 150 acres (61 hectares) of woods and meadows, which Joséphine proceeded to transform into 'the most beautiful and curious garden in Europe'. To achieve this she progressively introduced large numbers of exotic plants and animals to the gardens.

In 1800, she built a heated orangery which was purportedly large enough to house 300 pineapple plants. In 1805 she oversaw the construction of a greenhouse that was heated by twelve coal-burning stoves, and in the period 1803 until her death in 1814 she cultivated around 200 species of plants previously exotic to France.

Perhaps the most famous area was her rose garden in which she grew around 250 varieties, acquired from her native Martinique and from other parts of the world. She commissioned the Belgian artist Pierre-Joseph Redouté to record her roses and I believe you can still purchase prints of his works.

She also acquired an eclectic array of animals and birds which were allowed to roam freely in the grounds. A walk through the gardens might have revealed at least, kangaroos, emus, black swans, zebras, sheep, gazelle ostriches, chamois, antelopes, llamas – and even a seal! But there were many more species roaming in the grounds. How did she acquire them? Apparently some of them were from the Nicolas Baudin expedition to Australia and Timor in 1800-1804.



Château de Malmaison (photo by Pedro Faber)

After her amicable divorce from Napoléon, Joséphine received Malmaison in her own right, and a pension of 5 million francs a year, and remained there until her death in 1814.

Peter Claxton, Ed.

## WHAT'S ON AT OTHER SOCIETIES?

### ADFAS Blue Mountains:

**Next lecture:** Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00 pm, Wentworth Falls School of Arts, Great Western Highway, Wentworth Falls  
**Dr Karen Pearlman** will present '*Telling Our Stories: Images and Ideas in Three Waves of Australian Film*'.  
 (Contact: Sharryn Ryan 0410 580 257)

### ADFAS Bowral & District:

**Next lecture:** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 10.30 am, and at 6.00 pm in the Ballroom, Annesley, Westwood Drive, Bowral  
**Bernard Allan** will present '*Laura Knight: from Newlyn to Nuremburg*'.  
 (Contact: Paul Nemeth on 0414 925 035)

### ADFAS Canberra:

**Next lecture:** Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 6.00 pm at The National Library of Australia  
**Martin Heard** will present '*Nelson's Mistress and Artists' Muse – The life, times and reputation of Lady Emma Hamilton*'.  
 (Contact: Marcel Dimo on 0451 681 473)

### ADFAS Ku-ring-gai:

**Next lecture:** Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May at Zenith Theatre, Chatswood at 10.30 am and at 6.00 pm.  
**Martin Heard** will present '*1066 and All That: The Bayeux Tapestry*'.  
 (Contact: Lynette Davenport on (02) 9438 4090)

### ADFAS Molonglo Plains:

**Next lecture:** Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, Queanbeyan Kangaroos Leagues Club, cnr Stuart St & Richards Ave at 2.00 pm  
**Martin Heard** will present '*1066 and All That: The Bayeux Tapestry*'.  
 (Contact: Helen Paterson on 0438 627 057)

### ADFAS Newcastle:

**Next lecture:** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April, at the Hunter School of Performing Arts, Lambton Rd, Broadmeadow at 6.30 pm  
**Michael Scott-Mitchell** will present '*All You Wanted to Know about Sex but Were Afraid to Ask*'.  
 (Contact: Kathy Heinrich on (02) 4927 8053)

### ADFAS Pokolbin:

**Next lecture:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 pm in Cessnock Performing Arts Centre, corner of Vincent St & Aberdare Rd, Cessnock.  
**Bernard Allan** will present '*From Paris to New York: The Story of American Impressionism*'.  
 (Contact: Tracey Seath on 0417 489 635)

### ADFAS Scone

**Next lecture:** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 6.00 pm at Scone Arts & Crafts Hall, Kingdon Street, Scone  
**Bernard Allan** will present '*From Paris to New York: The Story of American Impressionism*'.  
 (Contact: Kerry Cooke on 0428 458 141)

### ADFAS Shoalhaven

**Next lecture:** Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 7.30 pm at the Berry School of Arts, 19 Alexandra St, Berry.  
**Bernard Allan** will present '*Laura Knight: from Newlyn to Nuremburg*'.  
 (Contact: Ted Jarrett on 02 4464 3242)

Programmes & contact details for ALL Societies are available on the ADFAS website: [www.adfas.org.au](http://www.adfas.org.au)



## THE RED CROSS NURSE

Tom Skeyhill

Trevar Langlands, who is State President of FAWNSW would like to draw to the attention of members of ADFAS Camden that the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) has once again invited FAW to conduct a Short Story Competition under the banner:

### SENIORS CARD SHORT STORY COMPETITION

The prize will be publication in the FACS book *Seniors Stories Volume 5*.

On behalf of Seniors Card, FAW is encouraging seniors to write a short story. To enter the competition you do not have to be a member of FAW, just a NSW Seniors cardholder. If you wish to join, it is FREE. Just visit the Seniors website, [www.seniorcard.nsw.gov.au](http://www.seniorcard.nsw.gov.au) and sign up.

If you have ever thought about putting together a story, but have never got around to it, this is an opportunity for you to 'have a go'. Who knows, we might even see a story from you in our ADFAS Camden Newsletter!

To assist with promoting this competition, FAW has been conducting short story workshops throughout NSW, and the next and last one will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May at the Library of NSW in Macquarie Street, Sydney (10.30 am to 12.30 pm).

The theme for your story will be '**Love Your Life**' and you must use a unique title for your submission (Do NOT use 'Love Your Life' as the title). Stories must be no longer than 1000 words and the **closing date is Midnight on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019**.

The top 100 entries will be published in the Seniors Card Anthology to be released by FACS in October/November 2019.

The online entry form can be found on the FAW website:

[www.fawnsw.org.au/scssc2019-entry](http://www.fawnsw.org.au/scssc2019-entry)

The form is interactive, and your entry can be attached.

**For further information and complete conditions of entry, please contact:**

**Fellowship of Australian Writers: 0417 403 720**

When you're lying in your bed, with a buzzing in your head,  
And a pain across your chest that's far from nice  
She moves about the place, with a sweet angelic grace,  
That makes you think the dingy ward is paradise.

She's dressed in red and grey, and she doesn't get much pay,  
Yet she never seems to worry or complain.  
She's Australian through and through, with a heart that's big and true,  
And when she's near the deepest wound forgets to pain.

With her hand upon your head, she remains beside your bed,  
Until your worries and your pains begin to go,  
Then with fingers true and light, she will bind your wounds up tight,  
And when she leaves you're sleeping fast and breathing slow.

When the ward is sleeping sound, she begins her nightly round,  
With eyes that share your sorrows and your joys.  
With a heart so full of love, she beseeches Him above  
To watch and care for all her darling soldier boys.

There is something in her face, that can hold your tongue in place,  
When you'd curse because your wounds refuse to heal.  
But if once you get her cross, you will find out to your loss,  
The velvet scabbard holds the tempered sword of steel.

When you're once again yourself, and they pull you off the shelf,  
And send you back again to do the fighting trick,  
You'll just grip her by the hand, with a look she'll understand.  
Outside you stand and curse your wound for healing quick.

Though she hasn't got a gun and she hasn't killed a Hun,  
Still she fights as hard as veterans at the front.  
When Allies start to drive and the wounded boys arrive,  
It's always she who has to wear the battle's brunt.

She's a queen without a throne, and her sceptre is her own  
True Woman's smile and sympathy so sweet,  
So when guns no longer shoot, I'll spring to the salute  
Every time I pass a sister in the street.

From: The Book of Australian Popular Rhymed Verse  
ABC Books, Ed Jim Haynes © 2008

### ANZAC DAY 25 April 2019

My paternal grandfather was badly wounded on Gallipoli and an uncle was wounded and badly gassed in France during the Great War. Both of them, like many others, spent extended periods in hospital recovering from their wounds, so I thought the following poem was a fitting remembrance to finish this issue of the Newsletter.....Ed.

---

Editor Peter Claxton 4655 9781 <a href="mailto:pclaxton8@bigpond.com">pclaxton8@bigpond.com</a>	Honorary Secretary Linda Inglis 0428 825 386 <a href="mailto:linda.inglis@westnet.com.au">linda.inglis@westnet.com.au</a>
--	--

ADFAS CAMDEN Inc. .PO Box 146 Camden NSW 2570