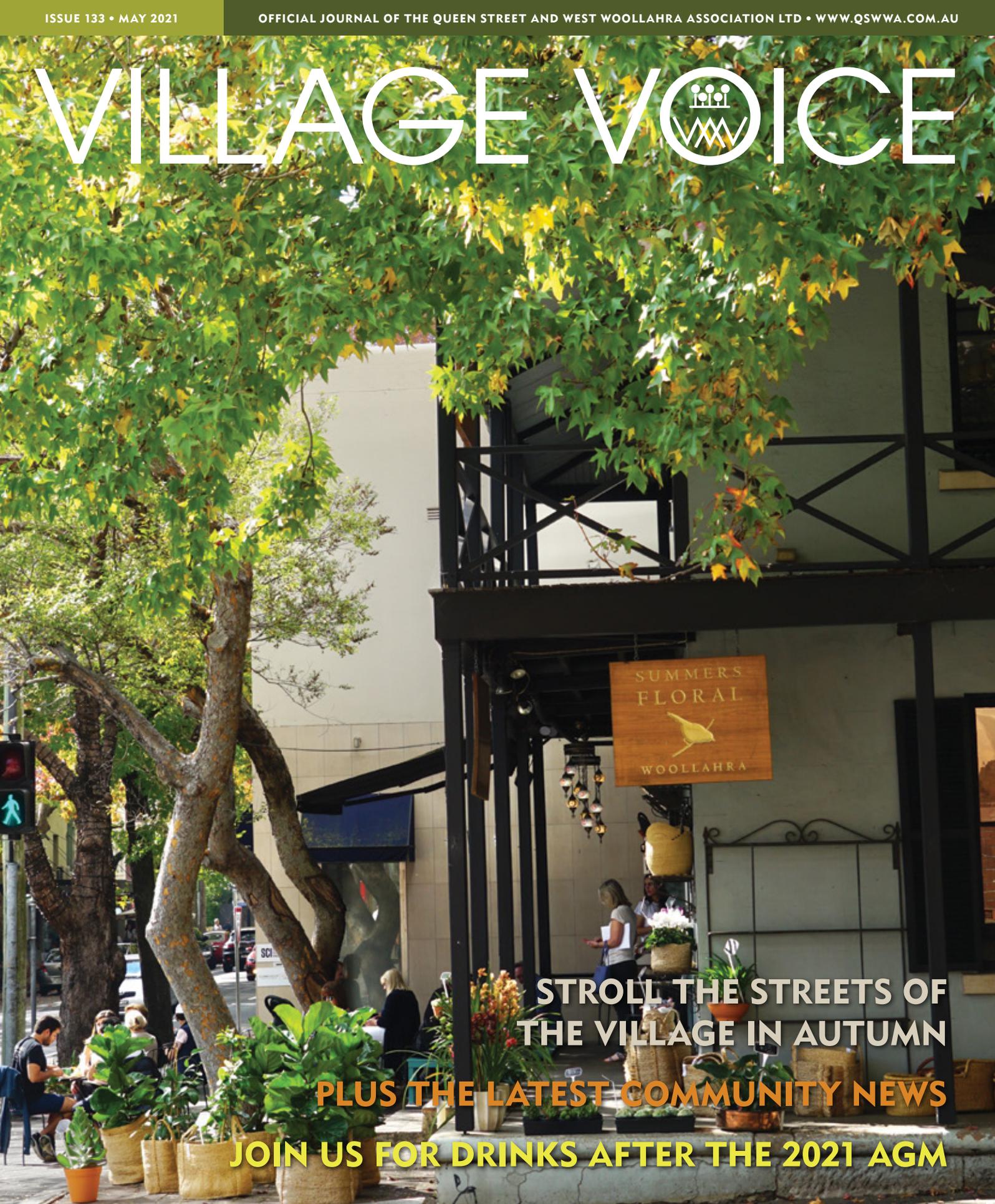


VILLAGE VOICE



**STROLL THE STREETS OF
THE VILLAGE IN AUTUMN**

PLUS THE LATEST COMMUNITY NEWS

JOIN US FOR DRINKS AFTER THE 2021 AGM

ACTING PRESIDENT'S REPORT



a huge thanks to Eric Scott, who, as well as being our Santa at the Carols for many years, has been production manager for the *Village Voice* for six or seven years, somehow managing to set out all the articles thrown at him by the editor into an orderly layout, and letting his creative juices flow in creating the all-important front page. Eric has decided it's time to hand on the baton to someone else, and we thank him very much for his all his efforts and patience.

We are very pleased to be getting back to our normal program of events this year. The first is our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, 8 June, which, as explained in the article opposite, we want to be very much a social opportunity for members to reconnect after a tough year. It will be held in the Woollahra Hotel and we encourage all members to attend. Non-members will be able to join at the door or use the form at the back of this newsletter. Doors open at 5.30pm for a prompt 6pm start to the AGM, with the aim of completing formalities by 6.30pm and starting the social drinks.

We now have dates for your diary for other events. Please make a note that the Annual Dinner will be on Tuesday, 14 September at the

Woollahra Hotel, and the Christmas Carols will be held at Chiswick Park on Tuesday, 7 December. Further details on both will be sent to members and published in the *Village Voice* closer to the dates, as will details on this year's Christmas Window Display Competition.

Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association. As detailed in the article below, we want to make this a very special event and very much want your ideas, input and support in designing a program of events that will reflect all the different characteristics of Woollahra, which combine to create our unique village atmosphere. I look forward to your ideas and involvement.

Finally, it's great to see business getting back to something like normal. I'm sure that, like me, your conversations with friends and family overseas, where severe restrictions remain in place despite considerable vaccine roll-outs, remind us how fortunate we are here. Please continue to take sensible precautions to maintain a COVID-free neighbourhood and make sure you support all our local businesses.

GILES EDMONDS,
ACTING PRESIDENT, QSWWA

This is the first edition of the *Village Voice* in its new format and I hope you are enjoying it as much as I am. After ten years, we thought we needed a more modern, contemporary look, format and feel, which would increase its appeal to readers and advertisers in printed and online form. Congratulations and many thanks to our new editor of the *Village Voice*, Christine Whiston, for the huge effort she has put in with the editorial team to make this happen. It's a great start for Christine in her new role. Also,

The Queen Street and West Woollahra Association Ltd
ABN 98002872433
PO Box 16, Woollahra 1350 | Email: admin@qswwa.com.au

The QSWWA is a residents and traders group in the area bounded by Jersey Road, Ocean Street between Jersey Road and Edgecliff Road, Edgecliff Road between Ocean Street and Leswell Street, Leswell Street and Oxford Street between Leswell Street and Jersey Road.

Acting President: Giles Edmonds, Treasurer: Alan Smith, Committee Members: Richard Banks, Phillip Mitchelhill, Susie Willmott, John Knott, Richard Haigh, Christine Whiston, Stephanie Macindoe.

The Village Voice Editor: Christine Whiston, Designer: Kerry Kliner, MegaCity Design, Subeditor: Deborah Brown.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this publication are those of the writers and not necessarily those of The Queen Street and West Woollahra Association Ltd.

ON OUR COVER

Photographer and writer John Peel has lived within a stone's throw of Queen Street for more than 40 years. He is the author of several photographic books on Australia. His latest, *Sydney: A Personal View*, is a bestseller at the Woollahra Bookshop in Spicer Street.

LET'S PARTY!

2022 QSWWA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

2022 is the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association. In addition to our normal program of events, we are looking to have a weekend-long event later in the year in 2022, probably October when the weather is warming up. We want the program to be as inclusive as possible for everyone living in the area, both interesting and fun for residents while promoting our local businesses. Events like this take a lot of creativity, planning and effort, so all volunteers with ideas and energy are very welcome. If you have a suggestion and want to get involved, contact admin@qswwa.com.au or 0429 078 229.

2021 QSWWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: NEW MEMBERS

Business name (if applicable)
(Business memberships only)

Business email

Website address

Your name
(Resident and Business memberships)

Address

.....

Postal Address (if different to above)

.....

Email address

Phone

Additional Member/Contact
(Household/Business memberships only)

Email address

Phone

Membership type: Individual \$30 Household \$50
 Senior Citizen \$15 Business \$50

Payment: Cheque Visa Mastercard Direct Deposit

Cardholder:

Signature:

Card Number: Expiry:

Direct Deposit: Westpac Paddington BSB 032-255 Account
760219

Date of Deposit:

Reference on Deposit

Mail this form to: Queen Street & West Woollahra Association,
PO Box 16, Woollahra 1350

Email this form to: admin@qswwa.com.au

Right: Built in 1858, Waimea House, at 14 Waimea Avenue, is one of the oldest in Woollahra. The historic property was saved from demolition in the 1970s due to the actions of the newly formed Queen Street and West Woollahra Association and the Builders Labourers Federation. In 1983 a permanent conservation order was placed on Waimea House by the NSW Heritage Council. Photograph, circa 1950s, Courtesy of Woollahra Libraries Digital Archive. For more go to Instagram, @qswwa_sydney

QSWWA AGM AND SOCIAL DRINKS

Queen Street and West Woollahra Association Members should have already received the official notification and associated documents for the QSWWA Annual General Meeting, which will start at 6pm upstairs in the Queen Street Lounge at the Woollahra Hotel on Tuesday, 8 June. Doors will open from 5.30pm, so please come early to register so that we can start promptly.

This is our first AGM for two years and we think it is a great opportunity for members to reconnect after a dreadful year of lockdowns and restrictions. To put more emphasis on the social element of the meeting, we are changing the venue and format, with the Association providing drinks and canapes for members until 7.30pm. Using the Woollahra Hotel will also enable members to continue after 7.30pm, should they wish.

We have already received acceptances from our invitations sent to Craig Swift-McNair, the General Manager of Woollahra Council, our local Cooper Ward Councillors Luise Elsing and Anthony Marano, our local state member Gabrielle Upton, and our federal member Dave Sharma. To keep the formal part of the AGM short, we will not be asking our guests to give a speech but will instead ask them to stay for the social part and give members a chance to meet with them individually, as their time permits. The *Village Voice* team – editorial, production, advertisers, contributors and subjects – have also been invited, as have representatives from the Woollahra Philharmonic Orchestra and Consort 8. As we go to press, we have already received over 60 acceptances from members, guests and supporters, so we are looking forward to a very convivial evening.

I encourage all members to attend to hear about the exciting plans we have for your Association, as well as to meet with our special guests, with the *Village Voice* team and our musical supporters. If you are not currently a member, you can still join by using the form at the back of this newsletter, downloading one from the website www.qswwa.com.au, or signing up at the door prior to the meeting.

GILES EDMONDS, ACTING PRESIDENT, QSWWA



COMMUNITY NEWS: THE LATEST NEWS, VIEWS, SHOPS AND EVENTS IN WOOLLAHRA

DRAMATISED READING BY JEAN KITTSON

A dramatised reading of *Two Sisters*, starring Jean Kittson and produced by Adam Liberman, will be presented at the Emanuel Synagogue this month. Jean Kittson, one of Australia's leading comedienne and entertainers, will present a reading of the play by acclaimed playwright Gail Louw, which explores the relationship between two sisters who reunite on a kibbutz in Israel for the elder sister's 75th birthday. It reveals their wildly differing views on their shared past; it explores their secrets, their lies, their jealousies, their humour, their wit and ultimately their love for each other. It is funny, poignant and at times hard hitting – a bit like life, but only about 70 minutes long. There are only four performances: Wednesday 19, Thursday 20 and Saturday 22 May at 7.30pm, and 2pm on Sunday 23 May at the Emanuel Synagogue, Millie Phillips Building, 7 Ocean Street, Woollahra.

Early bird tickets are available at: <https://events.humanitix.com/two-sisters>.

THE POWER OF UNITY

The brick exterior wall of St Columba Church on the corner of Forth and Ocean Streets provides the perfect space for customised artwork. Last year it was a chalk rainbow, a sign of hope in the time of COVID-19. This year it is a dove with the words 'Uniting Heart and Soul of Woollahra,' representing the unity which has played such a crucial role in bringing the community together in a time of unprecedented crisis.

PROPOSED TRAFFIC CHANGES NOT APPROVED

Woollahra Council's Local Traffic Committee has resolved not to proceed with a proposed one-way traffic flow in Morrell and Spicer Streets, due to a lack of community support. Following a request from a local resident to investigate ways of improving traffic flow in these streets, Council was considering the introduction of a one-way eastbound traffic flow for Morrell Street from Moncur Street to Spicer Street,

and a one-way southbound traffic flow for Spicer Street from Morrell Street to Queen Street, to ultimately improve vehicular access and reduce congestion in the area. The majority of submissions received by Council were not in favour of the proposal and due to the low level of support from residents, Council's traffic engineers recommended that the current traffic conditions should remain unchanged.

THE BODALLA DAIRY COMES TO TOWN

Award-winning ice cream from the Bodalla Dairy in the heart of the Eurobodalla Shire, on the NSW South Coast, has arrived in Queen Street. The McCuaig family's retro ice cream store at 148 Queen Street, inspired by a traditional dairy, features a candy-striped awning, timber stools, rustic signage and best of all, ice cream made the old-fashioned way. The Bodalla Dairy is a family affair which produces the highest quality milk, cheese and most recently, ice cream. Made from scratch in an exhaustive process over a series of days, the ice cream uses milk and cream from the dairy's Friesian milking herd and is flavoured with sustainably sourced bush foods. Jane Stuart lives in Woollahra and runs the store and her mother, Sandra, is responsible for the production of the ice cream, which is made at the dairy in Bodalla and transported direct to the Queen Street store. Bodalla Ice Cream has already won several awards at the Sydney Royal Easter Show, winning gold this year for its Kakadu Plum and Rum flavour. Try one or two or three scoops served in a tub or cone, choosing from flavours such as Let's Go Camping (naturally smoked with gum leaves), Coffee and Coastal Wattle Seed (a genuine bush food ingredient) or Bodalla Milk and Honey. Irresistible!

COLOUR AND MOVEMENT

Studio ALM, the vivacious interior design space founded in Queen Street in 2018 by Marjolais Leray, has taken up residence in a new studio in Queens Court, on the corner of Moncur and Queen Streets. After three years at No 84 Queen, ALM has taken the bold step of creating two very different design spaces: ALM, a space that is all about colour and exuberant design; and Scene, showcasing neutrals, which is situated close by on the corner of Jersey Road and Oxford Street. Representing renowned international and Australian designers, ALM is both a retail premises and a design agency featuring an eclectic mix of contemporary furniture and furnishings. Over the past three years ALM has commanded a dedicated following who will doubtless be delighted by the new space. This colourful corner is set to become one of the precinct's landmarks.



Bodalla's retro-style ice cream store



ALM's colourful corner

FOUND – AN INSCRIBED GOLD RING

A local resident contacted the *Village Voice* on May 10 after finding a gold ring near the walkway to Bondi Junction. The ring has an inscription dating back to 1948. We would love to reunite the ring with its owner so if you have lost a ring or know someone who has, please email the *Village Voice* on admin@qswwa.com.au and we will put you in contact with the resident who has the ring in their safekeeping.



Symbol of Unity

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DISCOVER THE ARTIST WITHIN

A CREATIVE NEW STUDIO HAS OPENED IN OCEAN STREET. ART LAB SCHOOL IS THE BRAINCHILD OF CELEBRATED LOCAL VISUAL ARTIST, KYLIE MELINDA SMITH (KY), AND IS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE CHILDREN AND ADULTS ALIKE TO UNCOVER THE ARTIST SHE BELIEVES IS WITHIN US ALL.

Set up in the former shopfront premises at 42 Ocean Street, Art Lab School offers after-school classes for children five days per week, and morning and evening art classes for adults, beginners and advanced, in both oils and acrylics.

‘I wanted this to be a place where students could feel calm enough to slow down,’ explains Ky. ‘An art room is somewhere to disconnect from the world and completely refocus your energy.’

The Art Lab School atelier is light and unpretentious, exuding a sense of gentle energy. Without students, it is calm and quiet. When the students arrive, it is revitalised and filled with a sense of creative purpose.

Ky grew up in Queen Street and although she has lived in other parts of the world, coming back to Woollahra ‘always feels like coming home’. She received her formal training on scholarship at the renowned Julian Ashton Art School, studied for a Bachelor of Fine Arts at UNSW and

furthered her studies at the Art Students League in New York.

While she has always had a yen to teach, Ky wanted to explore other aspects of her creative field first and since photography as well as painting was part of her professional remit, she became a photojournalist. She completed a cadetship on the *South China Post* and on returning to Australia, worked for several of the Sydney metro dailies before joining the magazine world, eventually becoming a senior photojournalist on the *Bulletin* magazine, a tenure which lasted for seven years until the magazine closed in 2008.

Ky is a practising visual artist. She has been a finalist in the Archibald and this year, she is a finalist for the prestigious Portia Geach Memorial Award for portraiture.

‘It all begins with drawing,’ says Ky, ‘and I have always drawn.’

Drawing forms the basis for all of the school’s tutoring, for children and adults alike. Before lifting a paintbrush, students learn about perspective and anatomy, about structure and space, light and shade. Their compositions begin with pencil sketches, the foundations carefully laid down.

‘Children love art classes. Many schools no longer have a dedicated art teacher,’ says Ky. ‘When children have the opportunity to learn about how to build a composition and focus on that, they get it, and they love it.’

‘Art is the best antidote to screen time!’

Classes are carefully structured; the children have sketchbooks and portfolios, and they always have something to take home and put on the wall.

And it is the same with the adult classes. Beginners start with acrylics, a less taxing medium than oils, which require more training and precision.

Watching Ky interact with five advanced students in their representative oil-painting class (painting from a photograph), it is clear that their

‘CHILDREN LOVE TO PAINT. THEY SEE IT AS FUN AND TAKE GREAT DELIGHT IN PRODUCING A PIECE OF WORK WHICH THEY ARE PROUD TO TAKE HOME AND PUT ON THE WALL.’



Five-year-old Alexandre works on his self-portrait during school holiday art camp.



Above left: Set up as a traditional atelier, Art Lab School inspires students to take a break from the world and focus on their creative energy. Viva, a student in Ky’s representative portraiture class, is working from a photograph to greyscale oil-painting. Above right: The school’s founder, Ky Smith, award-winning visual artist, works with Vivienne, one of her students in an advanced oil-painting portraiture class.

grounding in the basic tenets of portraiture provides the confidence that enables them to produce their best work.

‘Art is about the interior life,’ says Ky. ‘We are not supposed to live at this pace, and we need to slow down. This is the magic of painting. It is a different energy. It requires patience. One stroke and it can all change. Students – young and old – surprise themselves all the time. It’s about loosening up and getting lost in your painting.’

Art Lab School offers after-school classes for children Monday to Friday; classes for teens; school holiday art camps; and workshops and events. Classes are not limited to painting, they include a marvellous array of activities: basket-weaving, ceramics, fashion illustration, cartooning, storytelling, and most important, art history.

For adults, there are morning and evening art classes. Adult beginners classes offer a nine-week introduction to painting with acrylics, and classes for more advanced students offer painting in oils. Small classes ensure optimum tutoring, and all tutors are award-winning practising artists as well as passionate art educators.

‘My grandfather was an artist,’ recalls Ky, ‘my grandmother could sew and knit as well as cook and make things. We have lost so many of those skills, but art classes are a way to reconnect with them and build a community vibe at the same time.’



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MEET LYN AINSWORTH, HOLDSWORTH COMMUNITY'S NEW CHAIR

HOLDSWORTH COMMUNITY IS THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THE APPOINTMENT OF LYN AINSWORTH AS THEIR NEW BOARD CHAIR.

Lyn has been a passionate advocate for Holdsworth's work since she first joined the board as a Director in 2018. She brings extensive experience and knowledge of the not-for-profit sector including nine years at House with No Steps as Head of Strategy, Excellence and Innovation. She also held the role of CEO of Catholic Care – Broken Bay Diocese.

In a conversation with Lyn, she shared some insights from her career, personal values and goals for Holdsworth.

Q1: Congratulations on your new role, Lyn. For those that don't know you, can you please tell us a bit about yourself?

L: I am Lyn Ainsworth, Holdsworth's new Chair. I have a professional background as a lawyer. I spent several years in legal practice in the welfare area, such as family law, domestic violence and the Children's Court. Then I had an opportunity some 25 years ago to move into the not-for-profit sector, where I've held executive leadership roles throughout that time in large organisations.



Q2: What are you most excited about as the Chair of Holdsworth?

L: Holdsworth holds a unique place in the community that it serves. With the extraordinary external environment that we're operating in, we have a great opportunity to enhance our impact, to grow, and to continue to serve the community, potentially in different ways as needs emerge. I believe that Holdsworth has an amazing team and network of partnerships in the community that serves it so well.

Q3: What are your three most important values?

L: I hold three values really close to my heart — integrity, respect and hope.

We often interpret integrity to mean openness, transparency and honesty. Beyond that, I believe integrity is about being true to yourself, standing up for what you believe in and fighting for what you think is the right thing to do.

As for respect, it is fundamental with the environment that we operate in, as we're all about building relationships through building trust and support.

Lastly, hope is not just wishful thinking or being positive. It's about having a view of what might be possible, rolling up your sleeves and doing everything that you possibly can to achieve that. My husband tells me that I'm the most optimistic person that he knows. Optimism is about being determined, having a clear goal and being out there to get that for the good of others.

Q4: What do you hope to achieve as the Chair of Holdsworth?

L: As the Chair, I have a real responsibility to make sure that we build on the great foundations that have been established. This means ensuring that we're viable and sustainable for the long term, but also that there's a level of innovation and creativity. This will enable us to be agile to meet changing needs and to go from strength to strength.

Q5: What do you like to do for fun?

L: I can't live without dancing daily. In 2018 I actually participated in an international ballroom dancing competition. If I'm not dancing, I'm watching dancing or just dancing around the house.

To listen to the full interview and find out how to get involved with Holdsworth Community, please visit www.holdsworth.org.au.

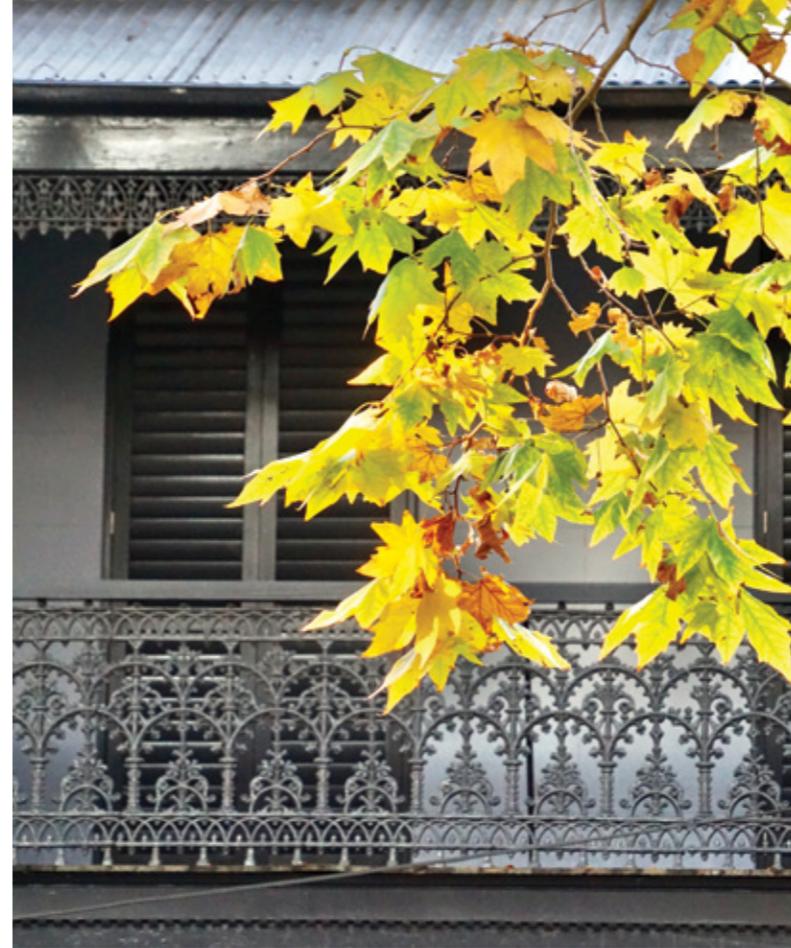


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QUEEN STREET AND WEST WOOLLAHRA VILLAGE MAGIC

LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER, JOHN PEEL, CAPTURES THE MAGIC OF THE WOOLLAHRA VILLAGE AND SURROUNDING STREETScape IN THIS SUPERB PHOTO ESSAY FOR THE VILLAGE VOICE.



MISSING BANJO PATERSON PLAQUES

IN 1997 THE MAYOR OF WOOLLAHRA OPENED THE NEWLY REFURBISHED QUEEN STREET FOOTPATH BETWEEN MONCUR AND HOLDSWORTH STREETS AND NAMED IT BANJO PATERSON WALK IN HONOUR OF THE POET A B ('BANJO') PATERSON, WHO HAD LIVED AT 135 QUEEN STREET FROM 1903 TO 1908, AND LATER AT THE GROVE, OFF QUEEN STREET.

The memorial project was conceived by the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association and included a plaque on the wall of Queens Court and a series of eight humorous plaques on nearby benches illustrating verses from Banjo's poems, all designed and cast by local artist and then QSWWA Committee member, Heather Smith.

Fast forward to today and the main plaque is still on the wall of Queens Court, but only six of the original eight humorous plaques can be seen in the pavement between Moncur and Holdsworth Streets. It appears they were installed in the footpath when the original seats were

removed. The QSWWA is interested in anyone's knowledge of what happened to the remaining two plaques. Our hope is that they are either in some surrounding street and we've missed them, or someone has them in storage and doesn't know who owns them. Alternatively, we fear, they may have been removed when the pavement has been repaired and are now lost for ever. If you have some information, please contact the QSWWA at admin@qswwa.com.au.

GILES EDMONDS, ACTING PRESIDENT, QSWWA



The main plaque (centre), surrounded by four of the surviving pavement plaques.

Quarterly Sales by Team Kemp

3 Bathurst Street, Woollahra	\$3,200,000	8a/105 Cook Road, Centennial Park	\$1,115,500
204/40 Stephen Street, Paddington	Undisclosed	14/5 Cleveland Avenue, Surry Hills	\$1,800,000
74/8-14 Fullerton Street, Woollahra	\$1,150,000	3 Forth Street, Woollahra	Undisclosed
160 Windsor Street, Paddington	\$2,320,000	2a/6 Hampden Street, Paddington	\$1,235,000
209 Edgecliff Road, Woollahra	\$6,000,000	24 Attunga Street, Woollahra	\$4,822,000
30a/3-17 Darling Point Road, Darling Point	\$6,100,000	11 Junction Street, Woollahra	\$3,000,000
66/299 Forbes Street, Darlinghurst	\$4,300,000	12/453 Glenmore Road, Edgecliff	\$1,325,000
45/299 Forbes Street, Darlinghurst	\$2,300,000	47 Liverpool Street, Paddington	\$2,450,000
15 Rush Street, Woollahra	Undisclosed	20/62 Ocean Street, Woollahra	\$1,860,000
29/299 Forbes Street, Darlinghurst	\$1,300,000	33 View Street, Woollahra	Undisclosed
38 Fletcher Street, Woollahra	\$4,500,000	2/96 Bellevue Road, Bellevue Hill	\$2,360,000

22 Sales

\$62,652,500
Sales Value

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THE WOOLLAHRA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA: A JUBILANT RETURN

The WPO returned to St Columba Uniting Church in March for the first performance of its 2021 concert season, aptly named Back in Bloom.

And what a joyful return it was! Given the COVID restrictions last year the orchestra was unable to perform its usual concert programs, turning instead to music simulcast on their various social media platforms. Their first performance of 2021, under the direction of guest conductor Warwick Tyrrell, presented an inspirational program showcasing Shostakovich, Schumann and Mendelssohn, with soloist, pianist Quang Hong Luu.

The concert opened with Shostakovich's exuberant Scherzo in F# Minor, Op 1. One of the earliest examples of the composer's work, it is thought to be the first time this piece has been performed by an Australian orchestra.

Undoubtedly the highlight of the concert was the rhapsodic performance of Schumann's Piano Concerto in A Minor (Op 54) by soloist, Quang Hong Luu. This remarkable, award-winning young pianist is based in Vietnam and Australia, where he currently holds a position in the piano faculty of the Academy of Music and Performing Arts in Sydney.

Schumann's Piano Concerto in A Minor, written for his wife Clara Wieck and premiering in Dresden in 1845, is widely considered to be one of the masterpieces in the piano concerto repertoire. Quang Hong Luu's spellbinding performance was a masterful combination of the lyricism and vibrancy of the composition, while the intimacy of



the church as a concert space created a unique connection between soloist and audience.

The final work of the concert was Mendelssohn's Symphony No 5 'Reformation' (Op 107). This powerful composition saw the WPO rise to the challenge of complex orchestration and deliver a flawless performance under Warwick Tyrrell's baton.

The WPO will return in June with its second program for the year, Breathe Again.

CHRISTINE WHISTON



SOLOIST, PIANIST QUANG HONG LUU, SPOKE TO CHRISTINE WHISTON AFTER THE PERFORMANCE

My first meeting with the Woollahra Philharmonic Orchestra was last year (pre-COVID) but once we collaborated, I clearly felt their incredible fresh energy to make music.

It was remarkable to be that close to the audience. A soloist caters to the surroundings and communicates very differently. There was such a strong communication and intimacy with this audience, I felt the energy coming from the audience and they embraced the invisible 'vibe'.

You can feel it, and this inspires you to give your best; audience, orchestra and soloist communicate, and this is so uplifting.

I invited some of my students and friends to the concert and my students were so stimulated by the closeness to the orchestra, to the colours and passions. Live performance is not the same as listening at home, it has its own energy.

A music performance is like a Christmas present, you know you are getting it, but you don't know until you open it what is inside.

As a musician on stage, you are the messenger with no words. Subconsciously, you have a sense of admiration for this music and the amazing capacity to be touched by this genius and proud to be part of the communication of the artist's insight.





WOOLLAHRA
PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA

BREATHE AGAIN



Martin Cohen
Flute

Rojas
Mozart
Bizet

Martin Cohen
Marjorie Maydwell
Brad Lucas

Flute
Harp
Conductor

New Work World premiere
Flute & Harp Concerto
Symphony

Friday	18 June 2021	7:30pm
Saturday	19 June 2021	5:30pm
Sunday	20 June 2021	2:30pm

Saint Columba Uniting Church
Corners Forth & Ocean Streets, Woollahra

TICKETS \$35
www.ticketbooth.com.au www.wpo.org.au info@wpo.org.au

Note: Tickets are strictly limited due to Covid-19 restrictions



Brad Lucas
Conductor



Marjorie Maydwell
Harp

Supported through the Woollahra Council's a & Cultural Grants Program



SEVEN PIECES FOR SEVEN NIECES

IT STARTS WITH A SKETCH. WORLD-RENOWNED ARTISAN, MATTHEW ELY, TRANSFORMS DREAMS ONTO PAPER, BRINGING STORIES TO LIFE AS SPECTACULAR JEWELLERY; TRUE WEARABLE WORKS OF ART.

Open since 2014, the iconic Matthew Ely Queen St boutique is where the magic happens.

Alongside original custom creations, it is here that family heirlooms (read: Grandma's slightly outdated jewels) are transformed and reimaged into modern classics – *Matthew Ely Recreations*.

For Matthew, these projects represent some of the greatest and most rewarding challenges.

'You're essentially given a canvas that's half-painted; a story half-told. This isn't just about creating something beautiful. It's about maintaining a symbolic family connection, using pre-existing gemstones to design new heirlooms.'

It was in late 2020 that Matthew embarked on one of his most exciting jewellery recreations to date.

The challenge: to remodel a special grandmother's gemstones into not one, but seven modern classics. These redesigned jewels would be high-end statement pieces, simultaneously wearable and perfectly matched to the individual personalities of their new owners.

A gift – or seven – from a generous uncle to his seven nieces, creating new family heirlooms from his mother's old gems, dating back to the 1920s.

As always, it started with a sketch. Matthew and his client would meet weekly, brainstorming ideas as Matthew put pen to paper, visualising concepts that were later painted by an artist in France, before being brought to life. Over 11 months, seven unique works of wearable art came into being, blending original jewels and settings – sprays of diamonds,

individual pearls and leaves from a brooch – with modern elements that were unique to each wearer.

For one young and artistic niece, this meant redesigning her grandmother's diamonds into two special pendants, a feather and a tooth – both sparkling with pink sapphires and brilliant-cut diamonds, set in rose gold. With a hint of rebellion, it added a casual 'vibe' to something that was true high-end jewellery, steeped in family history.

For another niece, pink tourmalines and rubies were sprinkled between Grandma's diamonds and pearls, adding a dash of red (her favourite colour) to a new pair of earrings, perfect for her wedding.

And in yet a third recreation, baroque South Sea pearls, diamonds and emeralds from an original brooch were recreated as a pair of drop earrings, inspired by an ivy-covered swing in the family garden.

At a sit-down dinner in the Matthew Ely boutique – a catered three-course meal with bottles of French champagne – these special recreations were presented to their new owners.

According to Matthew, 'for our clients, it isn't just the jewel, but the experience behind it; those little luxuries and surprises – whether it's a sit-down family meal in store, or that final leather-bound book with the original sketches of their new family heirloom, now brought to life.'

Seven pieces for seven nieces. And the response? 'Tears, joy and complete shock!'

To find out more or book a consultation, contact Matthew.

MATTHEWELY.COM.AU



MONCUR CELLARS: CELEBRATING SHIRAZ

THERE ARE MANY REASONS TO BE EXCITED ABOUT THE END OF AUTUMN AND THE BEGINNING OF WINTER. FOR ONE, IF YOU ARE A WINE ENTHUSIAST LIKE ME, A VISIT FROM CHRIS TYRRELL OF TYRRELL'S WINES WITH BOTTLES OF THE SACRED SITES WINES IS SOMETHING TO BE KEEN ABOUT.

This year is all about 2019 vintages, and yes, another amazing vintage like 2018, 2017 and 2014.

From what I have tried and tasted so far, Hunter Shiraz vintages are by far the best red wines Australia can produce. This month, Moncur Cellars is getting an allocation of three Sacred Site wines that are mainly sold to Tyrrell Members only. These 2019 limited-release vintages are the Johnno's Shiraz, Old Patch Shiraz, and 4 Acres Shiraz – each have their own distinct characteristics that make them stand out.

I enjoyed the 4 Acres as it was almost like a Pinot Noir but tasted like a Shiraz 'Hunter Burgundy' with beautiful red cherries and fruit complexity. The Old Patch has a more concentrated flavour of darker fruit and carries it with balanced elegance.

These wines will be enjoyed over the next 20 years and they are extra special because there are no 2020 vintages due to the bushfires.

This month, we also celebrated mums on Mother's Day with special treats across the bottle shop, Bistro Moncur and Woollahra Hotel.

And as if that's not exciting enough, tastings are back and so is our annual Shiraz Australia tasting event on Monday, 24 May happening at Bar and Bistro Moncur, where some of the best Shiraz wines in the country will be on offer.

Come July, for those participating in Dry July we have lots of new non-alcoholic spirits and drinks that all taste amazing to help you get through the month.

While on the last month of winter, we have our much-awaited Pinot Noir Australia tasting event to watch out for.

So, follow us on Instagram (@moncur_cellars) and keep an eye out for our events on our website (www.moncurcellars.com.au/events).

MARK BLAKE, CELLARS MANAGER

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Sketch(left,) for exquisite 18ct yellow gold, Pink Tourmaline, Ruby, Diamond and Pearl drop earrings.



ASK THE VET

PREPARING DOGS FOR THE WINTER MONTHS

Other than those special breeds like huskies and malamutes, our dogs feel the chill of winter just like we do. Thankfully, there are a few things we can do to keep our fur babies warm during the cooler months. First make sure they have a warm, cosy bed, particularly if they are spending time outside. Thick, padded or fluffy dog-beds and extra blankets are a great way to give our dogs a place to snuggle up on cold days. Always make sure they have some shelter, whether by keeping them inside or providing them with a kennel or keeping their beds under cover while they are outside. Doggy jackets are also a great way to keep shorter-haired dogs warm while they are enjoying some outdoor time.



Our older dogs often tend to feel the pain of arthritis a lot worse during the winter months. If your dog is showing signs of arthritis, such as struggling to stand after lying down for a period, stiffness first thing in the morning, slowing down on walks or feeling sore after exercise, it may be time to consult your vet about starting on some arthritis treatment. Treatments range from joint supplements made

specifically for dogs and specialised diets to support older animals, to injections which support cartilage and joint health. In more severe cases these dogs can often even benefit from daily anti-inflammatories, which can be prescribed by your vet if necessary.

These are just a few of the many ways we can keep our pets comfortable this winter!

DR INDIA, JERSEY ROAD VETS

NEWS ON THE MOVE

QUEEN STREET NEWSAGENCY

Small businesses are at the heart of the Woollahra village community and the Ng family's Queen Street newsagency has been serving the community for 21 years.

Sam Ng and his wife Christine bought their first newsagency in Queen Street in November 2000, when their daughter Vanessa was three years old. Vanessa now has a degree in Medical Science and works front of house at the newsagency.

Starting at 150 Queen Street in 2000, the Ng family business made a brave move across the street to 105 Queen Street. Then, in 2021, they had to find new premises once again where they could get a reasonable rent to keep providing the local community with international magazines and papers,



stationery, school supplies, greeting cards and gift wrapping, toys and many other items as well as Australia Post supplies and Lotto.

Over the years they have had several second-division Lotto winners but really don't know if there were any first division – who would tell anyone if you won more than \$1 million dollars?

The Queen Street newsagency has just completed another move and the Ng family have renovated and settled



into their new premises at 94 Queen Street, which was previously home to Robert Roseman Antiques and Household Linens.

Small business is never easy, yet for 21 years our local newsagency has weathered many storms – increasing rent, digital magazines and many more obstacles – but the Ng family still serves the local community, seven days a week from 6.30am to 7pm.

MARY READ

COUNCILLOR'S CORNER



A key concern of residents is the detrimental effects of overdevelopment including traffic congestion, difficulty parking, contested public parks and recreation facilities, compromised services (garbage collection) and degradation to resident amenity and local character.

The Greater Sydney Commission released a report in 2016 which set out numbers of new dwellings in areas of Sydney. The number in each area was based on the capacity of the area to accommodate new dwellings. For the Woollahra Municipality for the period 2016 to 2021, 300 additional dwellings were identified and recently an additional number of 500–600 new dwellings for 2021 to 2026.

Woollahra has already exceeded these new dwelling targets.

Council has approved or had constructed approximately 854 new dwellings between November 2016 and April 2021. This is 554 additional new dwellings over the target of 300 set for the period ending November 2021 (with six months to go) and exceeds the target set for the period ending 2026 (with five years to go). Imagine.

These additional dwellings are the reason we are experiencing degradation to our lifestyle and our enjoyment of the area. What can we do to improve the situation? Get involved.

I have successfully advocated that Council implore the State Government to reduce targets for new development in recognition of Woollahra having no capacity for further new development. I have also opposed residential development on public land (Double Bay carpark), the rezoning of recreational land (Double Bay Bowling Club), amending planning controls that disregard local character, and I am against planning strategies designed to increase residential development in Edgecliff and Double Bay.

It is important that we advocate for amendments to planning controls including increased lot sizes for dual occupancies, removal of State Environmental Planning Policy seniors development advantages from residential

zones and protection of special character areas. We get the cities we fight for.

Another complaint of residents is poor compliance by developers with development controls including during the construction period. We need to keep the pressure on the authorities.

From 2017 the State Government removed Councillors from decision making with respect to development applications. These are now decided by a government-appointed Planning Panel. Residents are rightfully furious that Cooper Ward is not separately represented on the panel. Community voices must be heard in planning decisions. I have initiated the restoration in the *Wentworth Courier* of notifications of DAs, to enable residents to be aware of what is happening around them and make any concerns known to decision makers.

The population increase compromises infrastructure and I have been working on improving footpaths, enhancing access to local open spaces, and other initiatives including the Queen Street Master Plan.

I am a local and independent voice on our Council, and I want to hear from you about your concerns and what we can do together to make lives better. Please contact me at luise@residentsfirst.org or 0407 417 704.

COUNCILLOR LUISE ELSING
RESIDENTS FIRST | COOPER WARD

INTRODUCING OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS

Osana is keeping over 6000 local Sydney members well. Our tailored health plans and unique preventative approach keeps you healthy and happy. We have achieved a 30% improvement in health outcomes & a 50% lower hospital risk for our members.



DR CHRISTINE O'CHEE
GP



LYDIA JOUKHADAR
HEALTH ASSISTANT

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OSANA
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It's all in
the detail

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MATTHEW ELY