

# ArtSpace

W o n t h a g g i

Newsletter #7

July 2015



The Winter Solstice was a great success with our judges John Mutsaers and Usula Theinert unable to agree on the winner – their solution – give two first prizes instead! Bob Hickman and Heather Towns were the pick of a fabulous bunch of entries. Here they are with their paintings.



## *Featured Artist: Marlene Abela*



I had always understood that there were left brained people whose brains were associated with linear and analytical thought, who are logical and objective and are great engineers and were people I frankly thought of as 'cone heads'. Then there were those who were the right brained people who were the creative ones filled with the artistic ability to make us experience joy and sadness and all the emotions as we view their work. So – when I look at the work of Marlene Abela filled with colour and movement I am convinced that she clearly must be a right brained person. And yet Marlene's first career was one in the banking industry. It's a strange entry into a life of art through a career concentrating on numbers.

As the youngest of four she had the joy of being able to spend time with her father who by trade was a pastry chef and as she held his hand as they walked together he instilled in her the importance of a work ethic. She was brought up to believe that if you really want something then you need to work for it. She married young and their first house was a small dark Victorian place into which she wanted to add light – and so she undertook a lead lighting course and filled her home with colour. It was here that Marlene fell in love with glass.



After many years with the aim of becoming financially secure. Marlene had her sea change and came to live at Sandy Point.

Three years ago "Artfusion Gallery" moved to Anderson Rise in Anderson, now "Artfusion Studio and Gallery", two studios and a retail space. It is here that Marlene works in the Glass Studio alongside her husband who works in the Steel Studio as she further develops her craft, and will go on developing and growing as a Maker.

Marlene's latest work is a new series titled "Storm" she will be exhibiting at the Derinya Art & Craft Exhibition in July. But you can always find her work at ArtSpace Wonthaggi as well as her own space Artfusion Studio and Gallery in Anderson.

If you would like to find out more about Marlene – or more about art in the Bass Coast Shire – why not click on the link for the Bass Coast Post below.

<http://www.basscoastpost.com/portraits-by-liane.html>

And – the winner of the Winter Solstice Exhibition People's Choice is Ellen Palmer Hubble with her painting 'Halcyon'. Here she is in front of her painting. She lives at Cape Patterson and says that art is a lifelong passion and an integral part of her.



## Strategic Direction

We invited all volunteers, exhibiting artists and members to a brainstorming session to establish our mission and vision. This is the first step to a road that will set a strategic plan to take ArtSpace forward. If you would like to be a part of future meetings – then please email us at [artspaceart@gmail.com](mailto:artspaceart@gmail.com)

ArtSpace Wonthaggi provides the opportunity for the widest possible audience to view and purchase high quality work by artists and artisans

Mission  
&  
Vision

ArtSpace Wonthaggi will become the premier gallery in southern Gippsland by advancing its reputation for

- The range and quality of its artworks
- Professional assistance in the purchasing process
- Community enrichment

**PS ....** Don't miss Diana Edwards' Exhibition-"Rhythms and Colours of my Heart" at AGRA located at cnr Camberwell & Inglesby Rds, Camberwell. The official opening by internationally recognised watercolourist, David Taylor, will be on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> of July at 2pm.

"Art is what you can get away with."

**ANDY WARHOL**

### *The Last Word*

If of thy worldly goods thou art bereft  
And of thy mortal store  
Two loaves alone to thee are left  
Sell one and with the dole  
Buy hyacinths  
To feed thy soul

