

ADFAS Mudgee Inc

ABN 38 303 378 600

Newsletter

No. 7 June 2014

Dear ADFAS Mudgee friends,

Unfortunately, ADFAS Mudgee's year did not start as intended. Two changes to the 2014 lecture program had to be made due to the sudden death of Tom Errington in late 2013 and the severe illness of Anthony Kelly. Our condolences to the family of Tom and our best wishes to Anthony for a recovery.

The executive of the Association of ADFAS are to be congratulated for speedily filling the voids with replacement lecturers; Sarah Deere-Jones for February (harps) and Zara Fleming (Tibet) for July. Many thanks to these two lecturers for joining the lecture tour in Cook circuit at such short notice.

VALE

The members of ADFAS Mudgee have been saddened to learn of the recent loss of two of our Society's foundation members, both of whom were centenarians and regular attendees at Society lectures until recently and, I should also point out, bridge players:

Jo Williams

Jo was the doyenne of Mudgee's art world, having long been involved in the promotion of arts in the district, as well as being a renowned and accomplished artist herself. The editor of this newsletter interviewed Jo for an article in the 2004 edition of the ADFAS Bulletin and was greatly impressed at the extent of her local endeavours to

foster art in the bush. Jo remained enthused for the arts in general for the rest of her life.



The above portrait, commissioned for her 100th birthday from Fu Hong, really captured the essence of Jo.

Molly Savile

Molly's enthusiasm for life and learning was amazing and somewhat exhausting for someone like myself who was four decades younger! We always used to mention to lecturers that, almost without fail, the first question at the end of a lecture would emanate from an elegant petite lady in the front row. Molly invariably delivered a statement such as "Now, when I was in the Victoria and Albert Museum on 14th August 1957, I remember seeing that painting by Turner which you discussed"

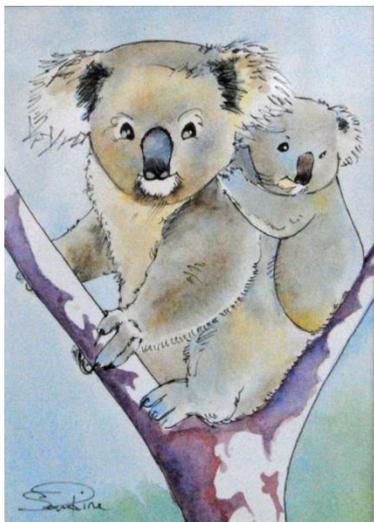
Both of these wonderful ladies enjoyed their ADFAS Mudgee lecture experiences and the social companionship the evenings provided. Our condolences are extended to the families of Jo and Molly on their losses. They are both greatly missed by many.

Sam Paine, Mudgee artist

Mudgee artist Sam Paine, also known to many locals as a *Mudgee Guardian/Weekly* reporter, is a grandson of ADFAS Mudgee member Lee Paine. Sam attended Cudgegong Valley Public School and Mudgee High School, and it was at the latter establishment where the editor of this newsletter frequently had to admonish him as a student in Year 7 for being constantly distracted from his Japanese lessons by his passion for drawing!

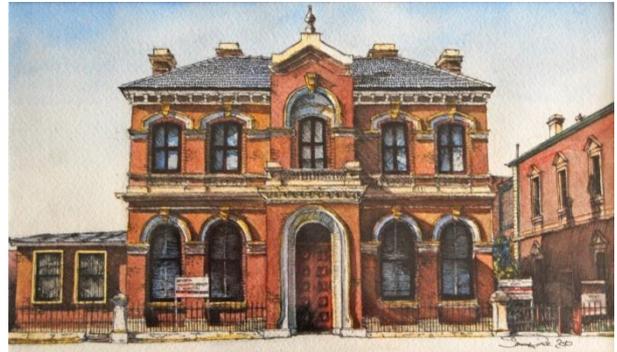
Sam completed a Bachelor of Creative Arts degree at Macquarie University, graduating in 2005. Since then he has pursued a career in the local news print media, while also being actively involved in the local arts scene.

Sam is largely self-taught, although he acknowledges Ruth Gobbit and the late Keith Norris for enhancing his skills in water colours and oils respectively. His preferred medium, however, remains pen and wash which allows him to produce works of precision for his favourite subject – buildings. Animals also featured in some of his earlier works.



Collection: John Broadley

Mudgee's heritage buildings are often the focus of Sam's outputs, whether for exhibitions or for private commissions. The family of the editor of this newsletter commissioned Sam to depict a range of three significant Market Street buildings in pen and wash paintings for his 60th birthday a few years ago. Each one reveals Sam's incredible eye for detail.



Collection: John Broadley



Collection: John Broadley



Collection: John Broadley

His preference for architectural subjects was heightened by visits to Italy, and Rome in particular, and also to New York, where the abundance of magnificent buildings represented a challenge with their scale, decorative features and patina.

Sam enjoys being involved in public art and also fostering an interest in and awareness of art in children. Sam has held numerous exhibitions in local galleries and also produced a popular Mudgee calendar in 2010.

Sam was honoured in 2014 by receiving a Mid-Western Regional Council Australia Day award in recognition of his contribution to the arts. He has also become involved in The Mudgee Underground, a creative process to involve people in artistic activities in innovative ways.

Hill End Cottages for Artists in Residence

Two cottages in the wonderfully atmospheric gold mining village of Hill End, an hour's drive to the south-west of Mudgee, have been available in recent years as part of an 'artist in residence' scheme which is managed by the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery.

Established in 1865 as the nearby gold mining village of Tambaroora was going into decline, Hill End boomed for a short period which saw a huge influx in population and a building boom. In the late 1800s Hill End also went into decline and many of the buildings were dismantled or fell into ruin.

From the late 1940s Hill End entered a bohemian period when the village became the haunt of a number of artists – Donald Friend, Russell Drysdale, Margaret Olley, David Strachan, Jeffrey Smart, Jean Bellette and Paul Haefliger – who appreciated the remoteness of its situation and the local landscapes. A few decades later John Olsen and Brett Whiteley also found Hill End inspirational.

Murray's Cottage in Beyer's Avenue, not far from and on the Mudgee side of the iconic Royal Hotel, the town's only surviving pub, was at one time the residence of Donald Friend and his partner Donald Murray; their cottage joined the scheme in 2003, and features a studio contained within the cottage.

Haefliger's Cottage, in Denison Street on the southern side of town, was the residence of husband and wife artists Paul Haefliger and Jean Bellette. After the latter's death in 1991 the cottage was bequeathed to the National Parks and Wildlife

Services, with a proviso that it be used as an artist's retreat. The cottage features a detached studio at the rear.



Haefliger's Cottage, front facade



Haefliger's cottage, interior

Artists – photographers, painters, sculptors – are provided with accommodation for a period of four weeks and in return are expected to produce a piece of art which becomes part of the collection of the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery. Ben Quilty, winner of the Archibald Prize in 2011 for his portrait of Margaret Olley, was resident at Haefliger's Cottage in April 2014.

Several historic buildings in Hill End, including the two artist retreats and the fascinating Marshall family house, Craigmoor, near Murray's Cottage, are usually open in autumn and spring each year. At these times of year Hill End is on display at its best, due to the proliferation of colourful European plantings throughout the village. Be warned, however, that you need to book.

There is also an Open Day for the two artist in residence cottages only on Sunday, 5th October 2014.

J. W. Walker & Sons Ltd, Organ Builders

This noted firm of organ builders, which is now based at Brandon in Suffolk, and at Devizes in Wiltshire, England, was established by Joseph William Walker (1802-1870) in 1828 and was operated by a fourth generation descendant until the 1970s. The firm has a royal warrant as “pipe organ builders and tuners by appointment to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II”.

Walker organs have always been highly regarded, and many of them were ordered for churches in Australia in the 1800s, some of which are still in working order. It is interesting to note that organs were often moved from church to church, as we shall see.



Walker organ in St Paul's, Mudgee

Mudgee is fortunate to have two significant Walker organs. A Walker organ, made in 1855, came to the first St John's Anglican church, and was installed in the current church when it was completed in 1860. It remained in that church until 1881, when it was replaced by the current Brindley and Foster organ

which was restored a few years ago. A condition of the gift of this organ by wealthy donor, Robert Hoddle Driberg White, was that the Walker organ should go to St Paul's Presbyterian church in Mudgee, where it remains in regular use today. This organ has a twin with a consecutive production number which was originally shipped to St Mary's Anglican church at Maitland and is now in St Luke's Anglican church at Wallsend.

The second Walker organ to grace Mudgee was built in 1866 and was originally installed in St Jude's Anglican church at Randwick in Sydney; this organ was dismantled, rebuilt and expanded in 1904. St Mary's Catholic church in Mudgee then acquired the remnants of the Walker organ which was reconstructed and installed in St Mary's in 1907. Situated in the choir/organ loft at the western end of the church, this historic piece is sadly no longer in use.



Walker organ in St Mary's, Mudgee

John Broadley
Editor

The Editor welcomes suggestions for items for inclusion in future Newsletters from members:

Contact: jbr71056@bigpond.net.au