



GLEN EIRA CHELTENHAM ART GROUP
INC. A0006161Y

Creative Currents 2026

Peter Smales Competition Comments **Oil Category***

Commended Oil - Cat. No:68

Title: Binalong Bay, Tasmania

Artist: Annette Bando

Comment: A subject found, and design realised in a jumble of boulders – colour complements in a cool palette.

First - Highly Commended Oil Cat. No: 165

Title: Persimmons with Blue Glassware

Artist: Isabelle McKenzie

Comment: A well balanced, formally designed tonal painting in blue/orange complementing colour scheme.

Second – Highly Commended Oil Cat. No: 204

Title: Sunrise on Piper Street

Artist: Glenn Thomas

Comment: Tones lowered to accommodate sunrise and street/shop lighting evoke strong sense of atmosphere. The illusion of recession, difficult when looking directly into light is well handled through converging lines

Best Oil Cat. No: 167

Title: Pinnacle

Artist: Susan Mercuri

Comment: A very challenging subject where the realism and narrative are to the fore – the feeling of grandeur as well as the two-dimensional aspect of the composition (eye tracking around contrasts) are well realised.

Acrylic Category

Commended Acrylic

Cat. No: 86

Title: Elemental

Artist: Karen Camilleri

Comment: A summery feel to a landscape compressed and balanced between two and three dimensions, handled with breadth and confidence.

Highly Commended Acrylic

Cat. No: 83

Title: Renmark Red Cliffs

Artist: Graham Brownfield

Comment: Brought to life what could have been a plain subject – all the varied tonal shifts across an eroded riverbank, well handled.

Best Acrylic

Cat. No: 142

Title: More Than Enough

Artist: Gail Lawton

Comment: All paintings are abstractions whether non-objective or illusionistic. They pass or fail on good design, balanced harmony of shape and colour tone. Gail's painting is more than enough.

Watercolour Category

Commended Watercolour

Cat. No: 208

Title: Morning Reverie White Magnolias

Artist: Julie Liza Williams

Comment: Well observed and articulated watercolour, delicate yet directly placed.

Highly Commended Watercolour

Cat. No: 132

Title: Where Paintings Begin

Artist: Susan Hughes

Comment: A painting within a painting and a lesson in perspective – a rather complex subject handled with apparent ease.

Best Watercolour

Cat. No: 212

Title: Windswept Trees

Artist: Amanda Wyness

Comment: Keeping the balance between the illusionistic reality and the formal decorative quality of a painting is always a challenge – it has come together very well here.

Pastel Category “The Agata Lelek Memorial Award”

Commended Pastel

Cat. No: 78

Title: Midnight Magnolia

Artist: Bita Beheshty

Comment: A well-balanced pastel of modest scale has succeeded in keeping the delicacy and lightness of the flowers while modelled with all of their subtle shadows.

Highly Commended Pastel

Cat. No: 157

Title: Ancient Echoes of Hakone

Artist: Jing Lin

Comment: Real mood and atmosphere are captured – perfect pitch of tones on all those complex objects.

Best Pastel

Cat. No: 126

Title: Rustic Bouquet

Artist: Dianne Hill

Comment: Control of edges is the hallmark of greatness! Control of tones and colours of course, but sensitivity to lost and found edges elevates one picture above another. This picture and the portrait are instantly eye-catching.

Other Medium Category

Commended Other Medium

Cat. No: 62

Title: Rockmelon

Artist: Annette Allan

Comment: As Cezanne said, everything in nature is interesting – a little bit of everyday explored and eloquently creating artistic expression from a piece of fruit.

Highly Commended Other Medium

Cat. No: 72

Title: Hairpin

Artist: Sam Bando

Comment: An interesting subject, i.e. a clever solution to balancing lights and darks.

Best Other Medium

Cat. No: 154

Title: Trees, Dunes and Grasses

Artist: Suzy Lee

Comment: A delightful exploration of textures and a balanced circular design.

Mixed Media Category

Commended Mixed Media

Cat. No: 90

Title: Forgotten I

Artist: Dawn Cole

Comment: Forgotten – like an old newspaper – working with a half tone and building to lights or sinking to darks, personality emerges through caricature – not to be forgotten.

Highly Commended Mixed Media

Cat. No: 183

Title: Harvest Harmony

Artist: Jocelyn Sakinofsky

Comment: Solidly structured shapes balance the flat decorative rhythm with the volumes of the objects, hanging in happy tension.

Best Mixed Media

Cat. No: 89

Title: Many Magnificent Moments

Artist: Amy Claire (Wallis)

Comment: An imaginative checkerboard of sombre but harmonised colours and shapes invites closer scrutiny. A pleasing design reveals interlocking birds.

Encouragement Award

Cat. No: 200

Title: Bruny Island

Artist: Mary Tattersall

Comment: The paint application giving an overall cohesion and unity to the picture reveals a true painter's instinct.

Best in Show

Cat. No: 214

Title: Portrait of my husband

Artist: Rae Zilberman

Comment: Portraiture, surely the most demanding of genres, and full frontal even more so. Asymmetry is usually preferred for variety's sake – the image is powerfully direct, beautifully subtle and poignant.

**** Due to confusion over media used there are 2 highly commended oil awards.***