

WSA Bulletin - 20 January 2026

Welcome to our first WSA Bulletin of 2026 & Happy New Year to you all.

We trust you had a wonderful break and as the year kicks off - you are as refreshed as our newly painted gallery walls.

We are sad to let you know that Graeme Henry passed away this month. Graeme was a lifetime member, long serving Executive Committee member, and he made an enormous and invaluable contribution to the society over many years. We offer our sincere condolences to Elane and family.

Long-time WSA tutor, Haydn Rive sadly lost his wife, Adrienne, in January. Her life was well celebrated on Saturday at the Salvation Army and we offer Haydn and the family our sincere condolences.

The year ahead for WSA aims to see us building on the previous year's success with supporting artists, increasing our art school offerings and community events, running exhibitions and constantly bringing in new artists and updating our retail space.

We look forward to welcoming you back into the art studios, galleries and retail store as we are now open for the year. Please read on for our first exhibitions, openings and artist talks.

Please be aware that the new Waikato Regional Theatre has now opened. There will be a show this Thursday 22 January in the evening, which will coincide with our Clay + Ash exhibition opening at 5.30pm. It will pay to be organised with your parking and perhaps expect to walk a little further if the museum carpark is full.

Artspost HOURS

- **Mondays - Fridays:** 9.00am - 5.00pm
- **Saturdays:** 9.00am - 3.00pm
- **Sundays:** CLOSED most Sundays; Open 11.00am - 2.00pm on a Sunday following an exhibition opening

WSA Art School Holiday Programme

- **January School Holiday Programme 2026**

Wed 28th - Friday 30th Jan, 9am - 12pm

Ages 5-12. \$35 per student per day

Upcoming exhibitions: January - February 2026 - see posters below

- **20 January - 4 February: 'Drawing with Light' by Lynn Taylor**

Dunedin artist Lynn Taylor will spend the week of 19-26 January in the WSA Print Room developing a series of 'sketches' using various cyanotype techniques and will gradually fill the Ruth Davey Gallery with her work. On Friday, from 1.00pm to 3.00pm, she will welcome visitors to the studio to see and discuss what she's up to. This work-in-progress will be first shown on Tuesday, 20 January.

- **20 January - 18 February: 'Flight Pattern' by Sybille Schlumbom**

1. Sybille's exhibition is movement-based, tracing the passage of time through places traversed, recording her *flight patterns*.

Closing event on Saturday 14th February at 10.30am

- **22 January - 18 February: Woodstoke presents: 'Clay+ Ash'**

1. Organised by **Janet Smith with Duncan Shearer.**

Opening Thursday 22nd January 2026 at 5.00pm

- **24 & 25 January: 'Drawing with Light' workshop by Lynn Taylor**

On Saturday and Sunday, Lynn will take a workshop called 'Drawing with Light' to introduce students to the mysteries of cyanotype. Work from the workshop will be added to Lynn's exhibition in the Ruth Davey Gallery

- **27 January - 18 February: 'From Kathmandu to Mamaku - A Reflective Journey' by Sarj Hada**

Sarj Hada invites you to explore a visual narrative of migration, resilience, and belonging. Born in Kathmandu into the artistic lineage of the Newar tribe, Sarj's path led him to build a life in Australia before finding his flourishing place here in Rotorua.

This exhibition centers on the tension and harmony of belonging to three places at once.

- **5-14 February: *Palimpsest* by Janice Meadows**

Janice revisits her prints to discover what might lie beneath.

Palimpsest, screen print, ca 1968 below

Term 1 Dates:

9th February - 11th April 2026. Enrolments filling fast.

Book online <https://wsa.org.nz/art-school/classes/>

Monthly Members' Night.

Our next Members' Night will be **11 February 2026 from 5.30pm - 7.30pm.**

If you know a business that would like to sponsor one of the evenings, please email: julie@wsa.org.nz

NZPPA Awards 2026

Congratulations to the 65 finalists who have been notified. A huge thank you to the 350 artists who entered for the NZPPA2026. Thank you to our sponsors: Nancy Caiger, Vision Complete Earthworks, PCANZ, CFO Partner-Rachael Hayton and the Ruth and Lester Davey bequest

Note for your diaries: the opening event will be on Saturday **28th February 2026 at 5.00pm**

Sponsorship & donations:

90 years of promoting arts and artists in the Waikato

Donate to the WSA to help us as a not-for-profit organisation and charity keep our art school, galleries, artists retail space and more open to the wider community to continue to enjoy and benefit from. Even a small regular monthly donation can make a big difference for us.

Donate using the **koha** button at the top of our webpage: wsa.org.nz

Enquire about our bequest brochure and new sponsorship packages.

Contact Julie on: wsa@wsa.org.nz or phone **07 839 4484**.

Upcoming Exhibitions, Events & Promotions

WOODSTOKE Presents:

Clay + Ash

**Wood fired ceramic art
methods, kilns, practitioners**
22 January to 18 February

artspost
120 Victoria Street, Hamilton

For more information see: woodstoke.co.nz



Drawing with Light exhibition & workshop by **Lynn Taylor**



Palimpsest exhibition by **Janice Meadows**



From Kathmandu to Mamaku - A Reflective Journey exhibition by **Sarj Hada**



Flight Pattern exhibition by **Sybille Schlumbom**

Waikato-wide Events & Promotions

WSA Membership benefits include discounts from two of our local cafes:

10% discount on food and coffee when you show your WSA membership card



WSA Sponsors - with thanks!





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