

# TOP OF THE TORRENS

## art gallery newsletter

| May 2024 |



### Dates at a glance:

*Current Exhibition:*  
**'Silver Threads & Golden Needles'**  
Textile & Jewellery Exhibition  
Now showing until 30th June

*Next Exhibition:*  
SALA Members Exhibition  
**'Our Stories'**  
7th July until 25th August

*Next General Meeting:*  
**Tuesday 21st May**  
10 am at the Gallery

*Material for future newsletters  
can be left at the gallery marked:*

**Attention-Rosie Trenerry**  
or emailed to:  
[tott@tottgallery.com.au](mailto:tott@tottgallery.com.au)

*Please type TOTT NEWSLETTER  
in the subject field.*

Although it would have been lovely for Mother Nature to deliver our gardens a long awaited drink on April 12th, guests at the opening of the latest TOTT exhibition were instead, treated to a picture perfect autumn day in the Adelaide Hills.

In her opening address, TOTT Member and talented felt & textile artist Robyn Smith thanked and acknowledged all those involved in staging the exhibition. In particular, convenor & co-ordinator Annette Dawson; Talia Dawson for work in the design and production of promotional material; Rosemary Rowe for catering the event and Lyn Stephens for performing a beautiful rendition of the song 'Silver Threads & Golden Needles'.

Robyn also made special mention of the valuable support received from the Committee; Members who help stage the display as well as those work in the gallery and gift shop.

Reflecting on her extensive research into the exhibition's theme, Robyn said:

*"Textile art and jewellery hold a rich cultural and historical significance that spans across centuries and civilisations.*

*It has played a pivotal role in preserving cultural heritage, telling stories, recording history and expressing identity. It is both a vibrant and evolving form of artistic expression.*

*We pay homage to the generations of artisans whose hands have woven not just the threads but the very history of human creativity, ensuring that silver threads and golden needles continue to sparkle in the tapestry of our shared heritage. "*

In addition to the textile and jewellery creations for sale, the exhibition also features some display only items from bygone eras. These include handmade lace made in 1900, crochet dresses from the 1970s as well as an old Singer knee action sewing machine and a British Federation hand-crank machine.

A magnificent new watercolour painting with a textile theme by Christine Murphy is also on display in the gallery entrance.

There is much to see and enjoy in this fabulous collection of works by a very talented group of artists and artisans - a snapshot or two of which can be found ahead.

*We hope you are able to visit the TOTT soon  
to share in the joys of this exhibition for yourself.*



## "Silver Threads & Golden Needles"

features the works of  
19 talented Artisans & Artists

*including*  
**Guest Exhibitors:**

Jackie Bone-George  
Terry Brown  
Rebecca Kimlin  
Halina McGregor  
Peta Stuart  
Lynette Williss

&

**TOTT Members:**

Jenny Anderson  
Annette Dawson  
Jenny Denton  
Iris Foulkes  
Rosene Kotz  
Samantha Kotz  
Christine Murphy  
Simone Linder-Patton  
Alana Preece  
Rosemary Rowe  
Carolynn Scholz  
Robyn Smith  
Rosie Trenerry

*Pictured right:*

Talented artist Christine Murphy with her finely detailed watercolour featuring her Great Grandmother's sewing machine [amidst bolts of fabric], which greets visitors to the exhibition.

*Harriet Finch,  
Cradock Seamstress.*

*"My Great Grandmother lived on*

*a remote farm at Cradock. She and her daughters used this machine.*

*Ethel and Ruby never married, but took this machine with them to Quorn where they moved with their bachelor brother Ted, who was a PNG soldier in WW2, after selling the farm."*



*Works by Carolynn Scholz & Jackie Bone-George  
also pictured*



*Guest Artists with their works  
Left:*

Jackie Bone-George

*Below Left:*

Rebecca Kimlin

*Below right:*

Peta Stuart



*Right:*

Lyn Stephens performing  
"Silver Threads &  
Golden Needles"  
adjacent fine felted works  
by Lynette Williss





**'Silver Threads & Golden Needles'**



Above:  
Viewers cannot help but be in awe of the amazing detail in this spectacular quilt by Halina McGregor.



Right:  
Terry Brown's stylish garments are sure to keep out the winter chills



Left:

In addition to exhibiting her cosy knitted neck warmers just in time for winter, Jenny Anderson has also supplied two crocheted dresses for display.

In Jenny's words, "these dresses were made some time between 1969 and 1971. I look at them now and think my goodness, I actually wore them! I did have a decent pair of legs back then though!"

Vintage lace and a variety of sewing accoutrements also offer viewers an interesting perspective as to 'how things used to be'

Like Jenny's dresses, they are of course, not for sale.





## 'Silver Threads & Golden Needles'



Above, clockwise from top left:  
A cornucopia of textiles to delight at a glance...

Hand painted silk scarves by Annette Dawson & Nuno Felted wraps by Alana Preece; , Hat & gloves by Iris Foulkes; Glam pincushions by Rosene Kotz; Cosy neck warmer by Jenny Anderson; felted wall art & garments by Robyn Smith, plus cosy knits by Iris Foulkes, Rosene Kotz & Rosemary Rowe

Below, clockwise from top left:  
Jewellery & accessories in as diverse an array as you could imagine!

Porcelain rings by Simone-Linder Paton; Polymer clay earrings by Samantha Kotz; Handmade buttons by Rosene Kotz; Polymer clay brooches by Alana Preece; Hand felted & beaded bag by Lynette Willis



Above, clockwise from top left:

Textile homewares & decorator items including quilted wall hanging by Halina McGregor plus felted flowers & bowls by Carolynn Scholz; lavishly embroidered wall art by Jackie Bone-George; felted gift cards by Carolynn Scholz; hand made floral arrangement under glass by Peta Stuart; Macrame wall art by Jenny Denton & Raffia Bowls by Rebecca Kimlin

Below, clockwise from top left:  
Jewellery in a myriad of materials including metal, fibre, felt & ceramics & mother nature

Raffia woven earrings by Rebecca Kimlin, metal & beaded pendant by Peta Stuart; hand cut & engraved brass & silver necklace by Rosie Trenerry; shell incorporated in felt necklace & earrings by Carolynn Scholz; Hand-crafted ceramic necklace by Jenny Denton





# Your invitation to exhibit

Preparation is in full swing for our September exhibition,

## 'The Art of Wood',

which will be held from the  
**1st of September to the 13th of October 2024.**

While this exhibition will feature several woodturners with their 3D creations, we are also calling for works that support the theme of wood or feature wood as an element of the artwork, including **photography** and **paintings**.

Perhaps you've always wanted to dabble in wood carving or in making a sculpture from timber?

If you would like to participate with 2D or 3D art, a sign up sheet will be placed in the Gallery from Friday, or you can email [samanthakotz.art@icloud.com](mailto:samanthakotz.art@icloud.com) to be added to the list.



## TOP OF THE TORRENS GALLERY BIRDWOOD

9 Shannon Street, Birdwood  
PH 8568 5577

Open Wednesday until Monday  
11am to 4pm  
Including Public Holidays

[www.tottgallery.com.au](http://www.tottgallery.com.au)



For more information about exhibitions and the gift shop, phone the gallery, view our website or follow us on Facebook.



'BLACK, WHITE & A TOUCH OF COLOUR'  
*Simone Linder-Patton, Talia Dawson, Annette Dawson*  
February 4 - 17 March

'ART IN THE MAKING'  
*Artisan Exhibition*  
24 March - 5 May

'SILVER THREADS & GOLDEN NEEDLES'  
*Textile & Jewellery Exhibition*  
12 May - 30 June

'OUR STORIES'  
*SALA - South Australian Living Artists' Exhibition*  
7 July - 25 August

'THE ART OF WOOD'  
*Woodworking Exhibition*  
1 September - 13 October

'WHATEVER NEXT'  
*Beacham/Painter Exhibition*  
20 October - 1 December

'IN THE HEAT OF SUMMER'  
*Summer Members' Exhibition*  
8 December - 26 January 2025

2024 EXHIBITION SCHEDULE



## Artist of the month - May

### Ann Beacham

---



I have been creating glass art for over 20 years, with my beginnings in lead light. Initially I started creating lead light windows for my homes. As time progressed, I was asked to restore and create some leadlight lamps, windows and sun catchers.

More recently I have started creating my glass art using fusing and slumping methods. This process involves cutting, shaping, and melting together multiple pieces of glass to a finished piece. The fusing process involves a lot of forward thinking to get the right results as the glass shape changes as it is heated. These pieces can be 2 or 3 dimensional, sometimes requiring multiple firings to get the blend and shape required. Slumping can take on many forms, with bowls and platters being very popular. This process uses a mould to define the final shape.

I get a lot of inspiration from my surroundings and my garden, and incorporate that into my work. I am also open to suggestions for art works, and have done some commission work for people wanting a unique piece.

Working together with my husband Adrian, we often bounce ideas off each other. Until recently, I had been sharing the work area with Adrian and his metal art. I now have a purpose built glass studio for my work. I hope to be able to pass on my knowledge to others in the way of lessons very soon





# What's on at The Art Gallery of SA?



Last weeks!

## The 18th Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: Inner Sanctum ends on 2 June 2024

This free exhibition opened in March and explores our engagement with the world and each other. The concept of an *inner sanctum* refers to the private or sacred spaces we create and the faculty of imagination that allows us to see culture and society differently.

Coming up in July

- **Brent Harris: Surrender & Catch**, 6 Jul - 20 Oct 2024, Free entry

See details at <https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/surrender-catch-the-art-of-brent-harris/>

- **Reimagining the Renaissance**, 20 Jul 2024 – 13 Apr 2025, Free entry

See details at <https://www.agsa.sa.gov.au/whats-on/exhibitions/reimagining-the-renaissance/>

## Members Special Event: Surrender & Catch Exhibition Tour with Brent Harris & Maria Zagala

Sat 27 Jul, 1.30-3.30pm (ticketed)

Join contemporary artist Brent Harris for an exclusive tour of his exhibition *Surrender & Catch* with curator Maria Zagala, followed by a coffee on us at AGSA-eat. Working concurrently across painting, printmaking and drawing, Brent Harris has developed a generative methodology, where each medium feeds the development of his art in unexpected ways.

Book at [Surrender & Catch Exhibition Tour with Brent Harris & Maria Zagala - AGSA](#)

## Start at the Gallery: Awakening Imagination

Sun 2 Jun 2024, 11am-3pm Free, Gallery-wide day for 3-12 year-olds.

Enjoy a day of free family fun with art activities, tours & live performances.

Start at the Gallery is on the morning of the first Sunday of the month, every month.

See details at [Start at the Gallery: Awakening Imagination - AGSA](#)

## Tuesday Talks - insights from experts about key works of art on display

Every Tuesday at lunchtime, curators, artists and guest speakers share details and insights about significant works of art on display or exhibition themes with an engaged audience – both live and online in podcast form.

These are so interesting! Browse all the podcasts on Soundcloud at <https://soundcloud.com/artgalleryofsa>

Ann Davenport