



# Welcome!

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to **Mandurah Plein Air Artists Inc. (MPAA)**, a dynamic, motivated group of both professional and non-professional artists whose aim is to provide a friendly environment and foster the development and enjoyment of plein air art through practice, mentoring, workshops, and exhibitions.

To fully enjoy the benefits of the group, we have provided an information breakdown outlining all aspects of MPAA. If there is anything we haven't covered, please don't hesitate to contact our committee, who will be happy to help with any queries you may have.

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## **Bi-monthly Meetings and Guest Speakers**

MPAA conducts bi-monthly general meetings, and we encourage all members to attend.

These meetings outline upcoming events and information relevant to your enjoyment within the group. They are run by the committee and held at CASM Workspace from 9.00 am onwards on the first Tuesday of every second month. Notification will be emailed to all members prior to the meeting.

Occasionally, after a meeting and a short break for a cuppa, MPAA invites a guest speaker to give a talk or demonstration about their own art, or other information relevant to our artistic journeys. These sessions are informative, relaxed, and encouraging for the development of your own style.

## **Calendar of Events**

Members are encouraged to advise the committee of any upcoming exhibitions, workshops, or events relating to plein air art that may be of interest to members.

The calendar is updated regularly and made available on the MPAA website.

## **Christmas Lunch**

December is a time to socialise, reflect on the year, and celebrate Christmas with a lunch and a Secret Santa gift exchange.

Our Christmas lunch celebration is held on one of our paint out days from noon onwards. The cost of the food is kept to a minimal outlay per member.

Members are encouraged to paint a 9x5 inch artwork to contribute to a lucky-dip sack for our Secret Santa swap. This is a fun way to acquire artworks from fellow members. Boards can be purchased from the committee.

Members will be notified of details closer to December.

## **Committee Information**

MPAA is run by a committee of six, all of whom hold office positions.

A new committee is voted in at the AGM in July each year. Members will be notified 42 days in advance of the AGM.

Nomination forms are sent to members two months prior to the AGM. Members wishing to stand for a committee position must have their form signed by themselves and seconded by another financial member, then submitted to the current committee 28 days prior to the AGM.

We encourage all members to consider taking a position on the committee, or a supporting vice role, to assist in the smooth running of the group. Being on the committee is not an arduous task — procedures are in place to guide you, and outgoing committee members always provide support.

Each committee member is bound by the Model Rules of the WA Associations Incorporation Act 2015. Any member may request a copy of these rules.

A description of each committee role is kept as a guideline for new members, and may be viewed upon request prior to nomination.

Once elected, it is the member's responsibility to understand both their role and the Model Rules of the group.

## **Committee Members**

Committee for 2025/26:

- President – Peta Kapor
- Vice President – Anita Fratel
- Treasurer – Keryn Channing
- Vice Treasurer – Barb Thoms
- Secretary – Julie Macdonald
- Vice Secretary – Jo Wood

## **Other Position Holders**

Other positions:

- Website Facilitator – Peta Kapor
- Facebook Facilitators – Barb Thoms, Julie Macdonald
- Instagram Facilitator – Julie Macdonald

Committee meetings are held every second month after the paint out morning (alternate months to the bi-monthly general meetings) and will be held in the vicinity of the paint out location.

A quorum of 3 is required before a meeting can be held.

The President is responsible for calling general and committee meetings, though committee members may request a meeting if required.

Prior to the bi-monthly meeting, an agenda will be circulated to all members. If you wish to raise an item for discussion, please advise the committee within 2 days of receiving the agenda.

### **Exhibitions**

Exhibitions are organised on an as-needed basis each year, depending on opportunities presented to MPAA. They provide members with the chance to promote and sell their artwork.

Since 2022, MPAA has held an annual 'Approaching Landscapes' exhibition at Miami Plaza Shopping Centre, Falcon. Members may hire a board to display and sell their work. To date, this exhibition has produced excellent sales and commissions. All exhibitors must be financial members and contribute to the exhibition roster. There are no commission fees.

Early each year, MPAA calls for 4–6 members to form the exhibition team. There is a procedure manual to assist in the running of this exhibition.

Through our liaison with the Alcoa Gallery at ManPAC, further exhibition opportunities often arise. Details are discussed at bi-monthly meetings and shared via email.

### **First Aid**

Paint outs take us to a wide variety of locations, some of which may have risks such as snakes or heat.

Members are responsible for bringing their own first aid kit, water, hats, sunscreen, and appropriate clothing and footwear.

### **History of MPAA**

Mandurah Plein Air Artists Inc. was established in 2011 as a not-for-profit community group, founded by Leon Holmes and Barb Thoms.

'En plein air' is French for 'in the open air,' and describes painting outdoors with the subject in full view. This practice dates back to 19th-century Europe, when the Impressionists took art outside to capture natural light, colour, and atmosphere.

MPAA not only documents our natural and built environments through weekly paint outs, but also develops members' skills through workshops, demonstrations, and mentoring. Over a dozen members have since held solo exhibitions.

All MPAA events are open to the public, including Mandurah Open Studios, Crab Fest, Pinjarra Festival, and more.

Reports from the President and Treasurer are submitted at general meetings, though members may request reports or view financial/minute books at any time.

As a non-profit organisation, MPAA may generate funds for group benefit (e.g. equipment, advertising) but not for individual profit.

### **Insurance**

MPAA holds public liability insurance for financial members during community events, exhibitions, and Mandurah Open Studios. We also hold volunteer insurance for community events.

### **Membership**

Annual fee: \$50 (July–June).

Members joining March–June receive up to 15 months' membership.

Payment is online only (no cash). Links are sent by email and posted on the website.

If membership is not renewed within three months of July, members will be removed from the register and website.

Current membership is required to exhibit with MPAA.

The committee will not share members' personal details without permission, though the member register may be viewed at bi-monthly meetings in accordance with Model Rules.

### **Merchandising**

MPAA and PADU merchandise is available in a range of styles, including t-shirts, aprons, long-sleeve sweatshirts and hoodies.

You can browse and order online at [asdesignprint.com.au](http://asdesignprint.com.au), or simply click the link on the [pleinairdownunder.com](http://pleinairdownunder.com) website.

### **Name Badges**

New members are issued a name badge at their first bi-monthly meeting. Please wear your badge at meetings, paint outs, and workshops to help everyone get to know each other.

### **PADU (Plein Air Down Under) Festival**

Plein Air Down Under (PADU) is an annual outdoor painting festival, held over the September long weekend in the Peel region. It has its own steering committee but comes under the umbrella of MPAA.

Founded in 2019, PADU has grown each year, attracting professional artists, enthusiasts, and collectors. Its vision is to be Australia's premier plein air event, part of the international plein air festival circuit.

The event includes:

- International and local feature artists
- Pre-festival masterclasses
- Demonstrations, talks, and panel sessions
- Spirit of the Landscape exhibition at Alcoa Mandurah Art Gallery
- Opportunities for sales, awards, and prizes
- Free art activities and demonstrations
- Paint outs for all levels

PADU is supported by community events earlier in September, such as the World Wide Paint Out. Further details: [www.pleinairdownunder.com](http://www.pleinairdownunder.com) and social media.

### **Paint Out Days**

Paint outs are held each Tuesday:

- Summer: 8.00 am onwards (time will be shown on the event notification)
- Winter: 8.30 am onwards
- Finish: around lunchtime (or later, if you wish).

Members can volunteer as 'Paint Out Boss' for a month, choosing locations and uploading details to the Facebook page (Friday and Sunday). A list of previous locations is on our website.

When choosing a location, consider:

- Accessibility
- Toilets
- Shade
- Weather conditions (WillyWeather)
- Permission if painting near private businesses

Paint Out Bosses are nominated at bi-monthly meetings. If unable to fulfil your roster, please arrange a replacement.

Occasionally, we go further afield (e.g. Rockingham, Dwellingup, Ferguson Valley). Bus trips are also organised.

### **Photographs**

We love to photograph our events and share them on social media. If you do not wish to be photographed, or have your work shared, please advise the committee.

### **Privacy Policy**

The privacy of members is respected at all times. MPAA does not share members' details externally without consent, and access to the members' register is governed by the Model Rules.

### **Raffles**

MPAA participates in the Bendigo Bank Community Raffle to raise funds for both MPAA and PADU.

Members are asked to sell raffle books in the lead-up to September.

All proceeds remain with the group, helping fund activities such as the annual bus trip.

### **Reimbursement of Expenses**

To claim reimbursement, members must:

- Complete a Reimbursement Form
- Attach receipts

Forms are available from the Treasurer, Secretary, or on the website.

## **Responsibilities of Members**

- Attend meetings and read minutes to stay informed.
- Participate and assist where possible — from morning teas to raffles to committee roles.
- Support the group spirit of volunteering and collaboration.

## **Social Media**

MPAA maintains a website, Facebook page, and Instagram account.

Members may upload photos of artwork created at MPAA events to the Facebook page, but posts should remain relevant to plein air.

A Facebook subgroup, 'Daily Art Challenge,' encourages members to upload daily sketches or artworks.

On personal social media, members may only post their own work. If it relates to MPAA or PADU, please acknowledge the group with hashtags.

Venues often host us for free in exchange for promotion — so please use hashtags to credit them.

## **Sponsors and Suppliers**

Jacksons Art Supplies provides MPAA members with a 10% discount card. Cards are issued upon joining and renewed annually. Show your card at checkout to receive the discount.

Jacksons is also our main sponsor for exhibitions, including prizes for People's Choice awards.

Please use your Jacksons card instead of a Seniors card, so they can track how much we support them — this strengthens their sponsorship support.

## **Website**

Both MPAA and PADU have their own websites.

The MPAA website is more than just a noticeboard — it's a showcase of our members and their work. Each member has their own profile page, which can be a great way to share your art with a

wider audience. To keep your profile current, simply get in touch with the committee whenever you'd like updates made.

You'll also find all the latest information about our group on the website. If you spot something missing or have ideas for what else could be included, we'd love to hear from you – just let the committee know.

## **Workshops**

MPAA offers workshops run by both internal and external tutors.

- Members may propose tutors or offer to run a workshop.
- Costs are approved by committee before being presented to members.
- Non-members may attend at a higher fee.

Workshop payments:

- Invoices must be paid within the timeframe noted.
- Payments are non-refundable unless the workshop is cancelled.
- If unable to attend, you may find a replacement, otherwise your payment is forfeited (exceptions apply for emergencies).

Private workshops (non-plein air) may be mentioned at meetings and in minutes, but not promoted on Facebook unless plein air-related.