

ADFAS Molonglo Plains is all about accessing the arts  
in good company – it's an artful experience!  
Join us for our spring program.

**From the Chair:**



Dear fellow Members and Supporters of ADFAS Molonglo Plains,

Since our last newsletter big changes have occurred, with our change in venue to the C3 Auditorium. The Committee has been delighted with the favourable response from members to the new, light, bright and more intimate surroundings. And with the more favourable financial arrangements we have been able to plan an expanded lecture program next year, with an extra Special Interest Morning included.

Another big change on the horizon for ADFAS societies all over Australia is the expected confirmation later this month that our name will change – to ArtsNational-Molonglo Plains. Our committee believes this will be a positive step in better conveying the purpose of our society and the national scope of our organisation.

I'm sure you have enjoyed our lectures so far this year – some have been absolute stunners, haven't they! Especially that last adventure to the Antarctic, so thrillingly told by Mark Cottle. Two more great lectures coming up before the end of the year – see details in the next pages.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Best wishes,  
Lindy Ross

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## [Coming up – Our Spring Lecture Program](#)

[2.00 pm Thursday 21 September:](#)

### **MARIE CONTE-HELM [Highlights of Japanese Art and Culture](#)**

Professor Conte-Helm is a long-established Lecturer of UK Arts Society with a BA in History of Art and an MA in Asian Art. She has most recently served as Executive Director of the UK-Japan 21st Century Group, as Visiting Professor at Northumbria University, and as a Member of the Board of Governors of the University for the Creative Arts. She is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. She was Director General of the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation from 1999-2011 and has held senior academic positions at various UK universities. She is widely published and has lectured throughout the UK and abroad. She is also an experienced cruise speaker and a Resident Historian with Viking Cruises, lecturing on many aspects of Asian Art and East-West Encounters. She was awarded an OBE in the 2011 Queen's Birthday Honours for services to UK-Japan educational and cultural relations, and the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette by the Government of Japan in 2019.



This lecture will provide an introduction to and an overview of the arts of Japan. It will chart the development of key aspects of the Japanese aesthetic in painting, sculpture and the applied arts through different periods of history. Contact with China and the West, contrasting aristocratic and military tastes and the growth of townsmen's culture in the Edo period have all contributed to distinctive visual trends and techniques. An exploration of the impact of Zen Buddhism on Japanese culture, particularly in the areas of gardening and the tea ceremony, will convey further insights into the Japanese aesthetic as it has evolved through the ages. Following Japan's reopening to trade with the West in the mid-19th century, modernisation and westernisation came to inform changes in the content, materials and stylistic vocabulary of the arts of Meiji Japan.



## 2.00PM Thursday 19 October

### **ANNE ANDERSON Everything Stops for Tea! A social history of drinking tea.**



Anne is Hon Associate Professor at Exeter University and, with a first degree in archaeology and a PhD in English, Anne was a senior lecturer in Art and Design History at Southampton Solent University for 14 years. She has curated four national exhibitions, including *Ancient Landscape, Pastoral Visions: Samuel Palmer to the Ruralists* (2008), *The Truth About Faeries* (2009-11), *Under the Greenwood: Picturing the British Tree* (2013) and *Beyond the Brotherhood: The Pre-Raphaelite Legacy* (2019-20). Her book on *The Perseus Series* accompanied the Edward Burne-Jones exhibition (2018, Tate Britain). Anne has also published over a hundred academic

papers. She has held several prestigious fellowships including Fellow of the Huntington Library, CA (2008-09 and 2018-19) and Fellow of the Henry Francis DuPont Winterthur Library and Museum (2009/10). Currently a guide and lecturer, Anne specialises in Arts and Crafts art tours. Her career as an international speaker has taken her all over the world.

It was during the 18<sup>th</sup> century that the rituals of tea drinking were established. Tea drinking was both a private and public affair. The painter William Hogarth, famous for recording middle class life, shows us exactly how tea was drunk at the time. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the paraphernalia associated with tea drinking mushroomed, from infusers to strainers and drip-catchers. Manufacturers had to cater for a mass market. The cafe boom of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century resulted in Miss Cranston's Teashops in Glasgow, designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh and the Lyons Corner houses. All the large department stores had tearooms. At seaside resorts one enjoyed the tea-dance, while the great transatlantic passenger liners, the *Mauritania* and *Aquitania* and later the *Queen Mary* were floating palaces, where everything stopped for tea at 4pm. During the twenties and thirties taking tea in style was a way of life. After a hard day shopping nothing was nicer than the relaxing atmosphere of a Lyons Cafe and a nice cup of tea! This lecture combines social history with fashion and interior decorating. A wonderful selection of images will demonstrate the elegance of taking tea from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century to the 1950s.



## **What's in a Name??**

***Quite a lot when it comes to making an organisation and its purpose easily recognizable!***

Committee member Lucy Costas has prepared the following background on the proposed changes coming to all ADFAS groups in Australia, at the end of this month.

### **Proposed Change to the Business (Trading) name of ADFAS**

It has been proposed to change the operating name (not the legal name) of ADFAS to **ArtsNational** for the Association of ADFAS, and **ArtsNational – location** for the societies.

#### **Background**

For some years now there has been a move to change the name of our society. It has been observed that membership numbers have been dropping across most of the 37 societies, from a high Australia-wide total in 2017 of 6,605 to 5,393 in 2023. It has been acknowledged that our unwieldy name is a possible impediment to getting our message across to a wider audience and hence an inhibiting factor in our growth.

Our sister organisation in the UK, NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies) , went through this exercise in 2016 for the same reason, and came up with the same conclusion. They have adopted a short and pithy name, **The Arts Society (TAS)**.

The Association of Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Societies (AADFAS) Inc Strategic Plan 2020-2026 picked up on a growing concern about the visibility of ADFAS. It has also been acknowledged that ADFAS needs to be open to change and more nimble in its operation.

In 2021 a survey of 95 Society Chairs and Vice Chairs was carried out, including opinions on our current name and acronym, and found strong support for clarifying and refreshing the role of ADFAS in the community. It recommended that ADFAS needs to market itself more effectively and to different sectors of society to increase membership and hence to survive. A new Business Name which is easily understood and more general, to include the wide range of artistic endeavours which we celebrate, was strongly supported.

#### **The Rebranding Working Party (RWP)**

This was set up in late 2020 under the leadership of Peter Farr, the National Treasurer and comprising Chairs and Vice Chairs representing a range of societies across the country. A rigorous process of consultation via focus groups was carried out with a clear result – the name **ArtsNational** (no acronym) was a clear winner. It is proposed that each society will add its location (e.g. **ArtsNational-Molonglo Plains**) to differentiate itself. As the legal name (**Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society Inc**) will not change, there will be no need to change bank accounts or ABN etc.

A motion will be put at the next Association of ADFAS Council meeting on 28 September 2023 putting the adoption of the new business name to a formal vote. If the new name is adopted, the RWP will then embark on implementing the decision by appointing a Branding Agency to develop branding material including logo, colour scheme, style guide, website landing page etc. Any significant costs will be covered by the Association, not the societies.

The search will then go out for a pithy tagline. All suggestions welcome – let's see what you can come up with!

**Lucy Costas**

**Molonglo Plains Committee**



**Molonglo Plains Theatre Party Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2pm.  
'Oklahoma' at the Q Theatre, Queanbeyan.**

**'Oklahoma!'** is the first musical written by the duo of Rodgers and Hammerstein. The musical is based on Lynn Riggs' 1931 play, *Green Grow the Lilacs*. Set in farm country outside the town of Claremore, Indian Territory, in 1906, it tells the story of farm girl Laurey Williams and her courtship by two rival suitors, cowboy Curly McLain and the sinister and frightening farmhand Jud Fry. A secondary romance concerns cowboy Will Parker and his flirtatious fiancée, Ado Annie.

The original Broadway production opened on March 31, 1943. It was a box office hit and ran for an unprecedented 2,212 performances, later enjoying award-winning revivals, national tours, foreign productions and an Oscar-winning 1955 film adaptation. It has long been a popular choice for school and community productions.<sup>[1]</sup> Rodgers and Hammerstein won a special Pulitzer Prize for *Oklahoma!* in 1944.

One of the most re-staged and revived musical ever, this should be a great show!

**We are delighted that we have forty members attending this performance. Our Committee is keen for our ADFAS camaraderie to spread beyond the lectures and the afternoon teas!**

**Please let Chair Lindy know if you are interested in joining the wait list for this event.**

## Thank you to our home hosters!

Originally all the overseas ADFAS lecturers were home hosted on their lecture tours. With COVID this practice stopped but we at Molonglo Plains are again offering home hosting as our accommodation option. All our visitors this year have been home hosted, with great feedback from both lecturers and hosts.

Think about it for next year -If you have a spare bedroom and a private bathroom you would be most welcome to provide bed and breakfast for a really interesting houseguest for two nights – there is (a small) remuneration available.

It's an economical way for us to provide for our lecturers and makes a welcome change from hotel rooms for them. Please contact any Committee member if you are interested in Home Hosting or email [chair@adfasp.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:chair@adfasp.onmicrosoft.com)

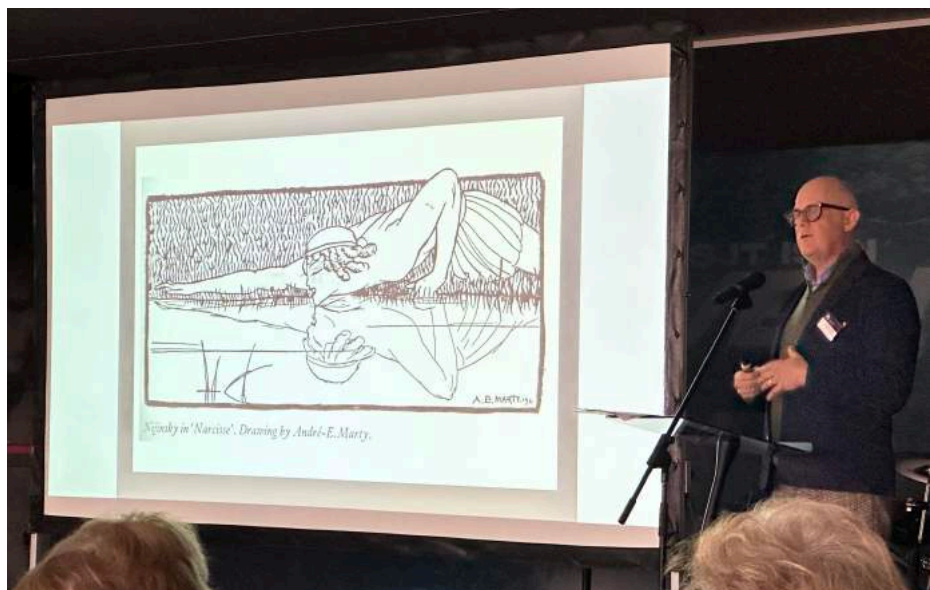
## Happy snaps from Molonglo Plains:

Our new foyer and lecture theatre in action.



One of many amusing moments with Mark Cottle – a wonderfully entertaining lecture and lecturer.

Lecturer Sandy Burnett taking us into the world of music, ballet and controversy with Stravinsky's 'Rite of Spring'.



## You'll recall that our Young Arts grant this year went to Marie-Cecile's Music, a local Jerrabomberra music school.

We are thrilled that as a result of our \$1000 grant (funded wholly through our monthly raffle) Marie-Cecile Henderson has been able to plan for a wonderful musical spectacular, featuring all her students in a unique opportunity for them to perform in the professional environment of the Q Theatre. Make a date in your diary to see how your generosity has enabled this great opportunity for young performers!



**Marie-Cecile's Music of Jerrabomberra  
in association with Arts National-  
Molonglo Plains & QPRC presents ...**

***Marie-Cecile's Music  
Spectacular!***

**STUDENT PERFORMANCES; SUPPORTIVE  
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT; AFTERNOON TEA**

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2023**  
Junior Recital 12-2pm  
Afternoon Tea to follow  
Adult/Choral/Band Concert 4-7pm

Thank you for  
your support

**ADFAS**  
AUSTRALIAN  
DECORATIVE  
& FINE ARTS  
SOCIETIES

**Location: The Q-Theatre  
Queanbeyan**

**Marie-Cecile's Music Studio,  
Jerrabomberra  
mariececilesmusic.com**

**Tuggeranong Sing Australia  
Weston Winds  
Arts National-Molonglo Plains**

## Loved the Shackleton lecture? Here's how to find out more. A reading list from lecturer Mark Cottle.

### Shackleton's Endurance Expedition: Further reading

Author	Title
C. Alexander	<i>The Endurance – a very good account of Hurley 's photographs and an interesting chapter on what happened to them afterwards.</i>
M Bound	<i>The Ship Beneath the Ice – The Discovery of Shackleton's Endurance. A riveting account written by the director of exploration.</i>
R. Huntford	<i>Shackleton – Interesting biographies of Nansen and a joint study of Scott and Amundsen.</i>
A. Lansing	<i>Endurance – a strong narrative</i>
E. Shackleton	<i>The Heart of the Antarctic</i>
E. Shackleton	<i>South – the Endurance Expedition –Shackleton's own accounts, with help, of the earlier Nimrod and later Endurance expeditions.</i>
M. Smith	<i>Shackleton: By Endurance We Conquer –recent, very readable.</i>
F. Worsley	<i>Shackleton's Boat Journey – still my favourite account. If you only read one book on the topic, this is it.</i>
J. Wright	<i>South with Endurance –coffee table format with all Hurley's photographs. Excellent.</i>

**Mark Cottle**  
**Email: [explorhist@outlook.com](mailto:explorhist@outlook.com)**







Don't forget, for a snack before or after an ADFAS lecture this café, just across the main street at 224 Crawford St offers a 10% discount to Molonglo Plains members. Yum!

**MOLONGLO PLAINS ADFAS 2023 COMMITTEE**

**CHAIR** Lindy Ross

**VICE CHAIR** Jan Whyte

**TREASURER** Lydia Melnikoff

**SECRETARY** Susie Ryrrie

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARIES** Chris Costas and Jess Cameron

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Lucy Costas, Barry Cranston, Margaret Dunkley, Elizabeth Grant, Sophia Notaras, Helen Paterson, Anna Prosser, Margot Sawyer.

***The Australian Decorative & Fine Arts Society Molonglo Plains Inc***

**Meeting in 2023 at the C3 Auditorium,**

**116 Monaro St, Queanbeyan 8xThursdays at 2 pm.**

**ADFAS Molonglo Plains members FREE, visitors \$ 30**

**Contact the Membership Secretary for visitor booking on**

**[membership@adfamp.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:membership@adfamp.onmicrosoft.com)**