

# Profile: Eva Thiedeman

Eva Thiedeman is a long standing member of PAS and has been taught mostly by Colin Johnson and Jean Cowan for a few terms. She loves watercolour pen and ink wash and mixed media with pressed flowers.

Eva has had a long association of working with flowers, both as a part time florist; volunteering and utilising flowers in her work as an Occupational Therapist and elsewhere. Her mother was an excellent pressed flower artist and graphic artist and together they shared their love of plants and art, helping each other with whatever project was on the go .

These included Pressed Flower relaxation groups for Carers with a number of organisations and privately with adults and children. All participants found this relaxing, and many commenced this as a new and low cost hobby. Budding artists are introduced to many concepts in a nearly fail safe way eg design and colour. Many enjoy the added tactile experience and horticultural knowledge imparted as well as the introduction to water colour washes. Teaching sessions were also held for the Diversional Therapy association in the use of floral art /pressed flowers.

More recently Eva has utilised these skills at the Neighbourhood house with two groups in 2015. In 2013 she was guided by Colin and commenced making a large three dimensional collage utilising pressed leaves and grasses for the AANZPA conference held in Newman College in Jan 2014. This graced a long table and was much appreciated especially as the weather had been very hot for the usual floral displays. Many groups were run with the elderly in Low level care facilities and also in Dementia care groups.

Her mothers' exceptional pressed flower prints have been donated to cheer up many aged care facilities as well as laminated place mats for the Burns unit after the Bali Bombings. Evas' mothers' work helped support the Botanical gardens through sales to tourists especially of native animals and birds made out of pressed plant materials.







