

Artist Profile

Ron Farnill



Born in Leeds England, Ron's inborn love of the sea took him in his spare time to the Yorkshire coast and eventually to serve in the Royal Navy during World War II.

After migrating to Australia, he continued to be an enthusiastic bike rider both as an amateur and later a professional until a fall from a roof compelled him to find another area for his competitive spirit. This led him to Balnarring Yacht Club on Westernport and a boat of his own. He soon learned that boats don't have brakes! Then he progressed from mono hulls to catamarans, trailer sailors, into keel boats and ocean racing; all the while fully aware and respectful of the sea and vagaries of the weather.

Sea going days over the time came when Ron decided to use his talent to capture these experiences and memories on paper, bringing the ambience onto dry land. His skilful use of watercolour, colour harmony, composition of shapes and his obvious enjoyment of painting make his 'maritime portraits' a continuing joy to those fortunate to possess one.

Ron is mainly a self taught watercolourist greatly assisted by Robert Wade.
A member of AGRA, the Peninsula Arts Society, and The McClelland Guild of Artists.

He has works permanently hung at-

- Frankston Cultural Centre
- Nepean Historical Society
- Monash Medical Centre
- Quarantine Station Portsea
- Frankston Hospital
- Flinders Shire
- Seal Rock Complex

He also has two published book covers, and at the moment is engaged in illustrating two books.

His first art award came in 1939, a National School Competition in England, then a long break before recommencing painting in oils, Then thanks to the help and enlightenment provided by the great watercolourist Robert Wade, Ron now paints for the pure pleasure and the enjoyment of watercolour. He is a strong believer in inherited memory and he is sure many of his works evolve from his sea fairing ancestors.

Awards & Prizes

First Watercolour, Red Hill
Highly Commended, Banksia Show
First Watercolour, Corinella
Highly Commended, Corinella
First All Mediums, Mordialloc Rotary
A.N.U Award, Altona Rotary
People's Choice, McClelland Guild
First Watercolour, St Christopher's
Highly Commended, Korumburra
Third Prize, Rosebud Rotary
Highly Commended, Red Hill
First Watercolour, Bass Shire
Highly Commended, Mornington Y.C.
Acquisitive Award, Rosebud Rotary
First Watercolour, Corinella 2000
Highly Commended, St Christopher's
Lees Award, Hastings
Second Watercolour, McClelland Guild
First Watercolour, Corinella 2001
Highly Commended, Dromana Rotary
Highly Commended, Hamilton Rotary
Highly Commended, St Christopher's
First Watercolour, Corinella
Third Watercolour, McClelland Guild
Acquisitive Award, Leopold
Highly Commended, Mordialloc Rotary
Best in Show, Red Hill
First Watercolour, Corinella
Highly Commended, Portland Rotary
First Historical Subject, Sorrento Rotary
First Watercolour, Corinella 2004
Second Watercolour, McClelland Guild
Highly Commended, Derinya
Second Watercolour, Warrnambool Rotary
First Watercolour, Corinella 2005
Commended, AGRA Autumn Exhibition
Third, Red Hill Show
People's Choice, AGRA Autumn Exhibition
Highly Commended, AGRA Winter
First Watercolour, Mordialloc Rotary
First Peninsula Scene
Dromana Rotary Show 2005
Highly Commended, Balnarring Art Fest
First Watercolour, McClelland Guild
Biennial Awards Exhibition
First Watercolour, Corinella 2006
Highly Commended, Cowes Art Show
Commended AGRA Spring Show
Highly Commended, Mordialloc Rotary Show
Highly Commended, Emerald Art Society
First Watercolour, Balnarring Art Fest
Highly Commended, Red Hill Show
Very Highly Commended, Yakerboo
Highly Commended, McClelland Guild
Biennial Awards Exhibition 2007
Highly Commended, Portland Rotary Show
First Christmas Exhibition, PAS
First Watercolour, Red Hill Show
First Grantville Award
First Watercolour Corinella 2009
Highly Commended Altona Rotary
Acquisitive Award Altona Rotary
First McClelland Guild monthly Comp
Highly Commended Red Hill
First Watercolour Flinders Art Show 2010

Gallery

