



Life Member of Fairfield Art Society Colleen was an artist of still life and landscape; she explored the effects of light on objects and the natural environment with her high-key, poetic colour compositions. Fred Bates, President of the Australian Watercolour Institute (1972-84), and then president of the Royal Art Society of New South Wales from (1986 - ?) once said to Colleen during a study course at the Liverpool Tafe Art Department that her style was already firmly formed and that art classes may hinder her natural development!

I first met Colleen at a Fairfield Art Society meeting held at the Westacott Cottage on Railway Parade opposite the Railway Station in the early 1970's. Friendships formed and as a group we went on day painting trips and visited art galleries etc. Colleen also went on artist led camping trips; some to the outback others to Tasmania etc. I also learnt over time that when Colleen painted at home her 'easel' was the top of the kitchen stove! She had a metal shipping container placed in her back garden as a work space but much preferred her kitchen and the better lit area over the stove.

Some of Colleen's career highlights over the past many years include winning numerous local prizes in Liverpool and Fairfield Art competitions, working and exhibiting at the School of Arts, Liverpool with Director Zena Kendall in the 1970's, exhibiting in focussed shows at the Fairfield Museum & Gallery, being invited to show at Greg Frawley's Temeraire Art Studio, Turner Road, Narellan and exhibiting in a group show curated by Greg Frawley in a gallery in Woolloomooloo c. 1970's - 1980's. She was also invited by Alice Klaphake to show at the Modern Art Gallery, Leacock's Lane Casula, (Now called Mount Omei) from c.1979 - 1989 inclusive. In 20-- Colleen won the prestigious Club Marconi's \$2.000 Prize for best work on an Italian theme.

Caring wife of Fred who passed away in 2013, mother of two sons and grandmother of three children, Colleen in her younger years also enjoyed the Australian beach culture, though she never learnt how to swim and held a wide variety of hospitality jobs whilst exploring the world around her.

Colleen died during the night of Thursday, 3 August 2017 at Liverpool Hospital whilst being attended to for a number of conditions including a blood clot in the stomach. She was 83 years old. Vale dear friend.

Lorraine Maggs