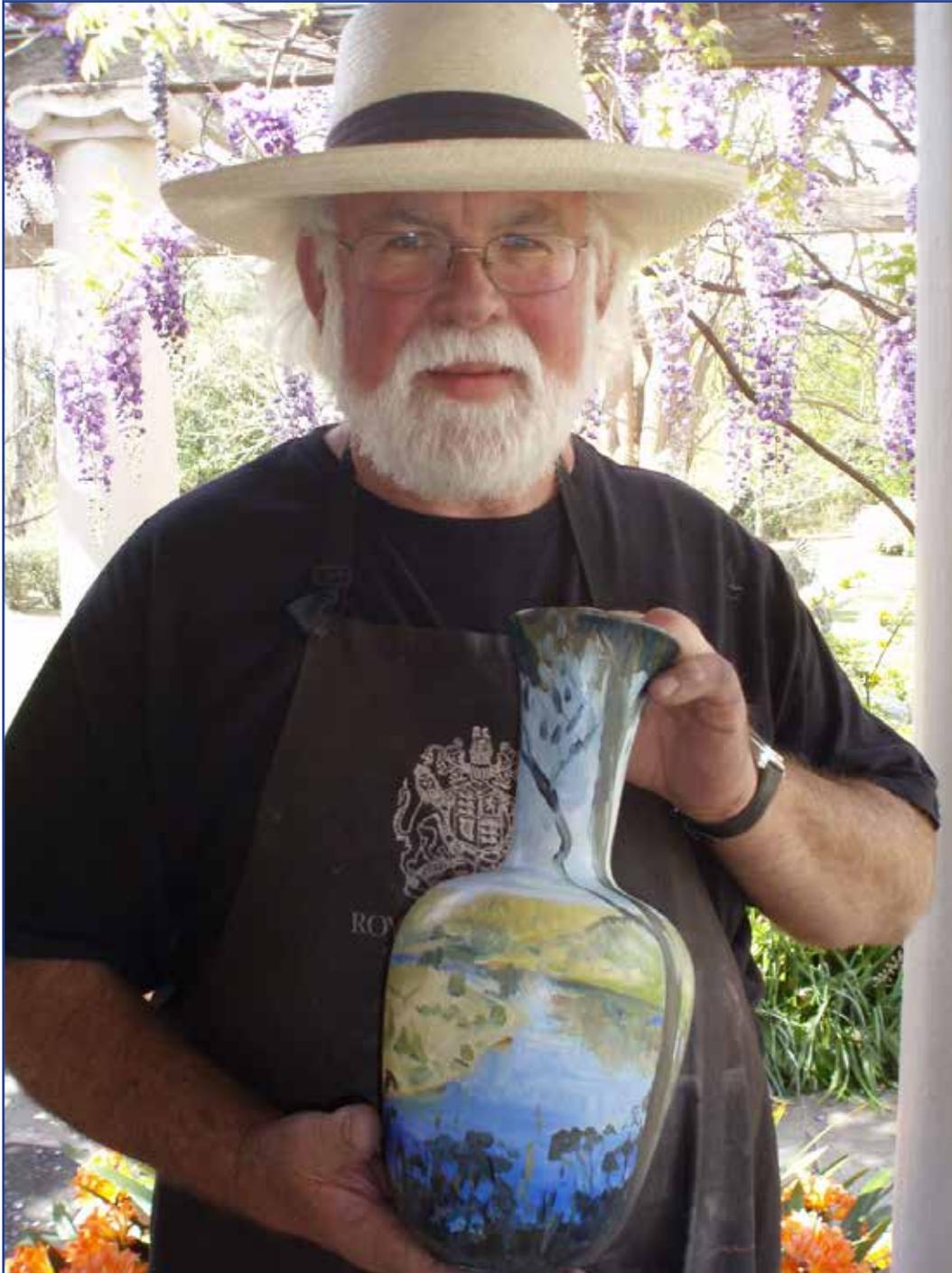


NORMAN LINDSAY VASES



Greg Hansell with Hawkesbury View

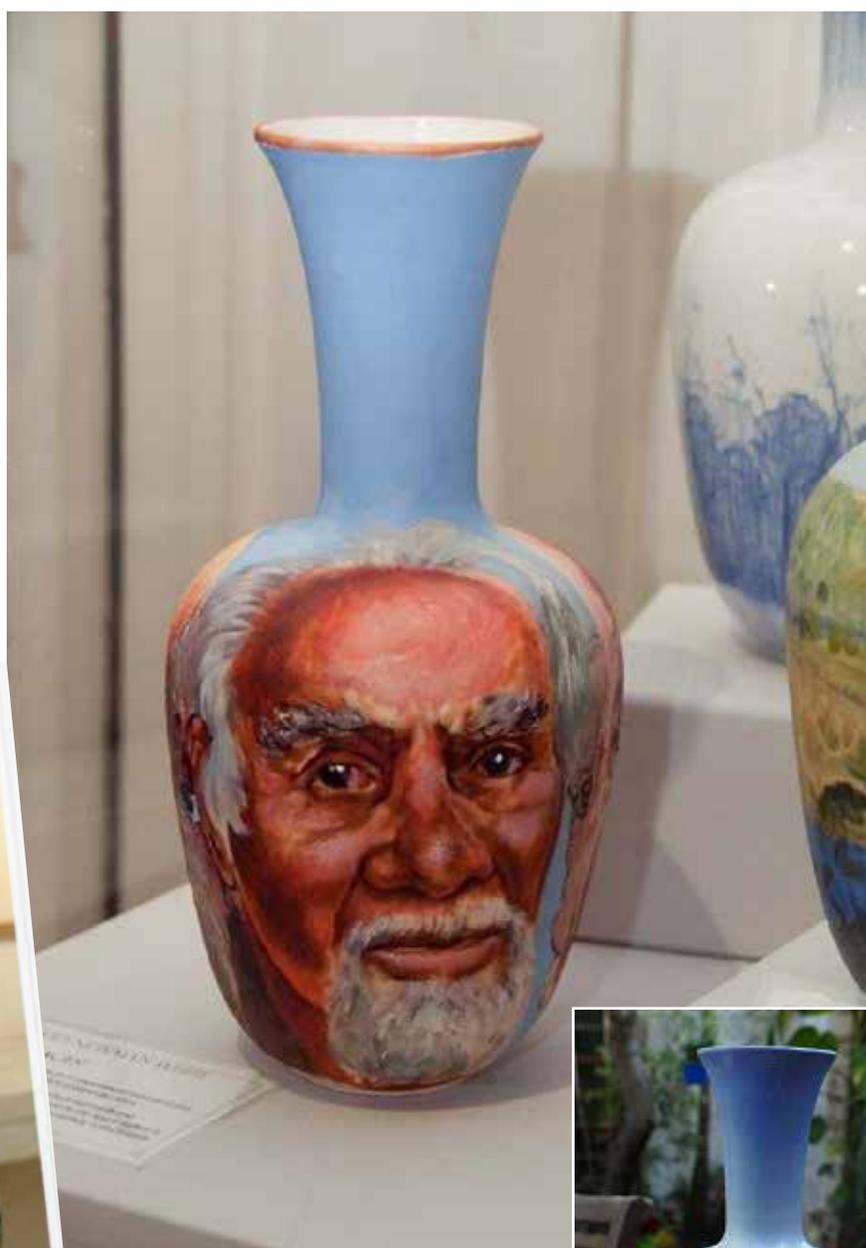
In 2013 when the National Trust's Norman Lindsay Gallery in Falconbridge commissioned a commemorative vase showing one of Lindsay's eye-catching works, it was decided to utilise the opportunity for an arty fundraiser by inviting a number of the region's best known artists to paint original works on similar white vases, all to be auctioned with some razzmatazz at the gallery in December last year.

The artists who generously lined up to offer their artworks to the gallery are a rollcall of the best known and most admired artists from the wider Blue Mountains area. With such a variety of art styles represented in this eclectic gathering, the gallery became the fortunate recipient of some extraordinary vases: colourful, intricate, contemplative, playful, comic and some exquisitely finely worked pieces.

Perhaps unexpectedly for visitors, the subject matter rarely attempted the style and flamboyance of the master of the

artist's model, with just a couple of exceptions, Paul Delprat with his Tribute to Lindsay, and, perhaps, Cathy Wilcox's voluptuous beach belles.

Even artists David Newman White and Jeff Rigby who regularly tutor at the Norman Lindsay Gallery's life drawing workshops, dared not attempt any comparison with Norman Lindsay—David Newman White producing a masterful portrait of a wizened, white bearded visage and Jeff Rigby some elegantly rendered grasses.



Centre: David Newman White, top left Cathy Wilcox, left Robyn Collier and Anne Smith, right Lindsay Foyle

Perhaps the favourites could be divided into two groups: the cartoons and comic subjects and the landscapes. In the first group were Cathy Wilcox, an award-winning writer and illustrator who created Summer Idyll and cartoonists Glen Le Lievre—Sea Abbotts, Lindsay Foyle—Flying Pigs, and, with more pigs, David Rowe, Alan Moir's quirky politicians and of course the inimitable Bruce Petty.

Elegantly painted landscapes came from the masters and mistresses of this subject with Deidre Morrison's Hawkesbury view, Robyn Collier's Rainforest, Owen Thompson's treescape and another beautiful Hawkesbury view from Greg Hansell.

Pol Barona's emus defied any categorisation and were superb while Falls Gallery's Anne Smith, cleverly referenced Lindsay's love of cats.

The National Trust's Norman Lindsay Gallery in Faulconbridge has an unusual program of events planned for 2014, with regular musical events and life drawing workshops and An Evening in Bohemia planned for later in the year with music, food and entertainment in the spirit of the Lindsays and the great characters of Sydney's heyday.

www.normanlindsay.com.au



Norman Lindsay commemorative vase

