



A new and exciting Hawthorn Artists Society.

Come the second quarter of 2016, and you will be able to enjoy brand new studio facilities in our Historic Home!

The City of Boroondara which manages the RSL building currently accommodating us, the RSL and others is now in the process of drawing up preliminary plans to house the Hawthorn Artists Society and the RSL and associates in significantly upgraded facilities. The renovation project will be commenced in July 2015 and is planned for handover prior to June 30, 2016.

Dear Hawthorn Artists Society Member:

On **Saturday, 25 October at 2 PM** we will have a meeting in the Studio to which you are cordially invited.

- There will be preliminary plans on display of the new premises for you to look at and comment on.
- You will have a unique opportunity to talk about requirements for the new studio and ancillary facilities as you see it.
- To talk about your hopes and aspirations for a renewed Society.
- Learn about the temporary studio that will be provided us by the City of Boroondara while construction is taking place.

This is an important opportunity to make a contribution to your Society, and your Management Committee very much looks forward to welcoming you and hearing from you.

Please find enclosed a summary check list of requirements for the new studio for input to the council to assist in their detail design. This list is a starting point and common reference point for discussion. Please feel free to comment, elaborate and add to the list. It is important that we do not forget anything that we currently depend on, so please scan the list and add any ideas for current best practice

If you have specific skills in this area and can work with a subcommittee on this project please contact p.kreveld@bigpond.com or phowie@bigpond.net.au

Comments on the Refurbishment of the Artists' Studio Hawthorn Art Gallery

1. Spaces

Characteristics of spaces eg purpose (eg kitchen, models changing area, artist's studios, area, shape, inclusion of wet facilities)

Location of spaces eg next to outside area, apart from bathrooms etc

a. Space requirements

Opening windows

Life drawing space for 22 artists drawing at easels and donkeys centred on life model on mobile platform. Allow circle diameter

Space for 15 students/participants at nine tables 1.8 m x 1 m arranged in U around teacher/demonstrator (Also suitable for clay modelling, cutting, collage)

Space for 25-30 Lecture chairs arranged around screen and teacher . (Digital and slide projector)

Storage space or areas for the following:

25 Easels

4 Donkeys

Mobile platform approximately 2m X 2m

Lecture/general stacked chairs 22

High chairs/bar chairs for working at an easel

Tables 1.8 m x 1m nine of

Collapsible side tables 20

Boards 25 A1 sized plus a 10 larger boards another 20 smaller.

CD player

Drying racks

Props for models

Cushions and pillows

Covers and Drapery

Firm and stable chairs for posing (2)

Stools

Staffs

Props/still life objects for drawing/painting

TV monitor for demonstration films dvd

Currently have a wooden bench and steel cabinet in Studio.

Area for work breaks/morning tea/lunch

Bar fridge

Micro wave

Kettle

Urn

Floor heaters

Fans

Spotlights

Notice boards at least current equivalent

Newsletters and Magazines

Library of Art books and magazines

Area for paintings collection

Computer and printer or internet access

Space for existing 2 of 3 drawer filing cabinets

Space – Models changing area .

b. Space Organisation

Initial Comments and Observations from the drawings-

- No door from the new studio to the outside paved area
- No windows evident on proposed plan for light into the studio
- Is the only access to the studio from Glenferrie Rd main entrance
- More than one sink is necessary-one at either end of the room for example.

Storeroom is an odd shape. As everyone brings their own materials and usually takes away their canvases, the purpose of the storeroom and what goes in it has to be clarified:

Library office-is this space for everyone who uses the building i.e. will there be a admin person there during the week?

Comments on the Refurbishment of the Artists' Studio Hawthorn Art Gallery cont.,

Office space attached to the studio-

- Office space-is this for HAS only i.e. a space which will could have lockable lockers/ cupboards for teachers' personal belongings.
- Tea/coffee making facilities
- Small meeting space for HAS committee.

c. Use of the Spaces

Is breakout area only for functions? or can it be an additional break out space from the studio, that is, if only HAS people in the building during the day, could this be another space for a smaller class such as portrait drawing, while the studio is in use for a painting class for example.

d. Rights of the life model

Will the model get changed in the storeroom, toilets or the office? The model may not like walking out of the studio past the kitchen to get dressed, particularly if the band is practicing or the RSL men are moving in and out of the lobby area for whatever reason. (night classes)

Will the model have protection from onlookers e.g. will the door be non glass facing into the lobby, breakout area?

2. Accessibility

Drop off/pickup parking for artists' equipment and artists with limited mobility

Access Restriction on people just popping to protect life model during sessions.

Ability for members to access sessions 7 days per week 9am to 10pm (currently 180 members)

3. Health and safety concerns

Exhaust/extraction fans and high ceilings

4. Environmental concerns

a. Construction materials

b. Disposal and handling of artists materials

- Fume cupboard for aerosol sprays, turps, glues etc
- Deep sinks for cleaning palettes with storage tanks underneath to catch any toxic materials in paint or additives. This storage tank has to be emptied regularly by a professional waste disposal company.
- Sinks must be plumbed differently if clay scraps and clay water is going down the sink as the material can cause blockage of drains.
- Good extraction system to minimise smell and fumes and clay dust in the room.
- Disposal of dry/ recyclable materials e.g. paper, canvas, timber, charcoal and other dust

5. Temperature control – heating/cooling

Heating and cooling and air flow for up to 24 people working in room

Quick heating for models in winter (To 23 deg C in 10 mins)

6. Lighting concerns

a. Natural light (e.g. orientation of light sources such as skylights, windows)

Natural light from south or south east or internal
(avoids changing light during painting session)

Frosted windows/doors for life drawing
Windows should be able to be opened.

b. Artificial light

Artificial lighting mounted on roof rack – remote controlled
Spot. led

7. Flooring

Wooden floor (not concrete)

8.Walls

Coverings e.g: waterproof areas, plasterboard and paint
Special Features e.g: pin boards, splash-backs, working walls

9.Ceilings

Floor to ceiling height

10.Cabinetry

Materials eg chipboard, formica, laminates,
Design e.g: storage cupboards, hanging space, drying racks,
"Stage" for models

(see also section **1.Space** for existing equipment)

11.Equipment

Equipment e.g. easels
Storage eg hanging capacities
Cupboards
Teachers/coordinators individual lockable cupboards 12 drawers 4
Open storage cupboard for common items – props etc
Books storage for art books.
Common cupboards to accommodate all of the above

- A moveable bench space where paper could be cut, demonstrations carried out or art reference books/ magazines placed specifically for individual teaching lessons.
- Drying racks-Separate drying racks for works on paper and 3D work
- Display board: use of a specific wall where artwork can be pinned up for discussion purposes, or to stand back and view a work in progress. Possible pin-board type material as wall lining.
- A publicity board on the outside of the building and inside

12. Circulation/organisation

Eg use of spaces – what is the impact if 2 classes are held contemporaneously?

13. Maintenance concerns

How easy/difficult are spaces to be maintained? Who is to do it?

14.Services

Security to prevent thefts (on average one per year)
A secure (internal) letter box
External mail box
Signage for visitors and advertising – maybe street sign subtext

15. Other concerns/comments