



Dear Decophiles,

It was wonderful to see so many of our members at this year's Annual Christmas Picnic!

Held on a delightful sunny and breezy afternoon last weekend at Perth's beautiful Queens Gardens, the Society's annual Christmas Picnic provided a fantastic opportunity to reconnect with old friends and discuss all things 'deco.'

A special highlight was new member Vince Taylor bringing along his 1930s-era portable gramophone player. Vince treated us to a selection of 78s, all in remarkably good condition—a real treat for vintage music lovers!

Our Secretary/Treasurer, Karl Haynes, delivered a thoughtful speech reminding us that while the Society must look to the future, it is equally important to honour and celebrate the past, including the hard work of members who are no longer with us. To great applause, Karl concluded his speech with a surprise announcement: the Society has been chosen to host a major exhibition at the Perth Town Hall next April as part of the Boorloo Heritage Festival! Additionally, we have been awarded a grant from the Heritage Council to refresh our guided walking tours of Nedlands, Mt Lawley, and the Town of Beverley.

It was truly a pleasure to share the afternoon with so many friends. On that note, I've recently been contacted by two long-time and much-valued members of the Society, Tina Spadaccini and Dr Dorothy Perret. While they're unable to attend events, they would love to hear from their friends in the Art Deco Society. If you'd like to get in touch, please call or email me, and I'll happily pass along their details.

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Decoratively yours,

Following the Annual General Meeting of the Art Deco and Modernist Society held on Sunday, 27th October 2024 the 2025 Management Committee is as follows:

Office Bearers

President
Vyonne Geneve
Vice President
Philip McAllister
Secretary/Treasurer
Karl Haynes
Publicity Officer
Kevin Jackson

Committee Members

Helen Griffiths, Linda Montgomery,
Louise Turner
Mark Brogan, Edward Pietrucha

Welcome to our new management committee member Edward Pietrucha



2025 WORLD CONGRESS ON ART DECO IS NOW OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC!

As of December 15, registration to attend the 2025 World Congress in Paris is open to all Art Deco enthusiasts.

For more information, please follow the link below to the host organisation, the Paris Art Deco Society.

<https://www.paris-artdeco.org/>

Assistance with travel planning can be provided by Society member Massimo Perotti

Tony Fusco



It is with profound sadness that we acknowledge the sudden passing of Tony Fusco, a dedicated champion of Art Deco, both in the United States and internationally.

Tony's passion for the preservation and celebration of Art Deco design was evident through his extensive work with the International Coalition of Art Deco Societies, where he played a pivotal role in advancing awareness and appreciation of this iconic style. His knowledge, dedication, and collaborative spirit also extended to the Art Deco and Modernist Society of Western Australia, where he provided invaluable support and guidance on numerous occasions.

Tony passed away suddenly at his home in Boston, Massachusetts, on November 22, 2024, at the age of 73. His contributions to the Art Deco community will leave a lasting legacy.

Details of his life and achievements can be found in his full obituary, linked below.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/anthony-fusco-obituary?id=56877815>

Heritage Shopfronts on Hay Street

Developer Sanur is seeking approval from the State Administrative Tribunal to demolish a row of 1921 shopfronts on Hay Street, Subiaco, citing structural unsafety. This claim is being hotly disputed. The developer has owned the buildings since 1989. It is unknown when SAT will make a decision. Read more in the Post Newspaper.



*Shopfronts before they were boarded up.
Courtesy: Post Newspaper*

More information can be found on page 3 and page 54 of the December 7 Post Newspaper.

<https://issuu.com/postnews/docs/241207>

Annual General Meeting

The Art Deco and Modernist Society's Annual General Meeting was held on 27 October 2024, at the Old Observatory's Annex, 4 Havelock Street, West Perth.

Fifteen members were in attendance, and we received apologies from an additional nine members. The meeting noted that it had been an eventful year with a series of successful 'discovery walks', a 'sneak peek' inside the Cygnet Theatre and a gala dinner to celebrate Vyonne's 90th birthday in June. The Secretary/Treasurer reported that the finances were in good shape and that the ATO had finally acknowledged that we were a charity and were not required to complete an annual income tax assessment. All the office bearers were re-elected. Unfortunately, Max Hipkins due to other commitments could no longer serve on the committee. Long-time member, Edward Pietrucha offered to fill the vacancy which was enthusiastically accepted.

Office Bearers

President – Vyonne Geneve
Vice President – Philip McAllister
Secretary/Treasurer – Karl Haynes
Publicity Officer – Kevin Jackson

Committee Members

Helen Griffiths
Linda Montgomery
Louise Turner
Mark Brogan
Edward Pietrucha

If you would like a copy of the finance report or the meeting agenda please contact the Society on artdecowa@gmail.com



René Magritte *The false mirror [Le faux miroir]* 1929, Museum of Modern Art, New York

Art Gallery of NSW

Members may be interested in Australia's first retrospective of the celebrated surrealist, **René Magritte**.

René Magritte's paintings of clouds, hats, pipes and apples are among the most recognisable images of surrealism. Renowned for his deadpan, realist style, the Belgian artist depicted ordinary objects and everyday settings, revealing them to be more mysterious and enchanting than we could ever have imagined.

Art Gallery of NSW

Naala Nura, our south building
26 October 2024 – 9 February 2025



Ethel Carrick, *Esquisse en Australie [Sketch in Australia]* 1908, National Gallery of Australia, Kamberri/Canberra, Purchased 2023

National Gallery of Australia

Two major exhibitions are being held in the National Gallery of Australia over the next few months that members may be interested in.

This summer, the National Gallery explores the lives and artistic legacies of **Ethel Carrick** and **Anne Dangar**.

Ethel Carrick was a gifted painter and colourist who was among the first artists to introduce a post-impressionist approach to Australia.

Anne Dangar places the artist at the forefront of modern art in Australia. Living in France, she worked and exhibited alongside European cubists as their artistic peer, all the while exerting an irrevocable influence on the course of Australian abstraction.

National Gallery of Australia

Parkes Place, Parkes Kamberri/Canberra
Australian Capital Territory
Major Exhibition 2024 – 27 Apr 2025

Please click on the following links for more information

[Ethel Carrick | Anne Dangar - National Gallery of Australia](#)

[Magritte | Art Gallery of NSW](#)



The Art Deco and Modernist Society of Western Australia has been invited to participate in next year's Boorloo Heritage Festival, with a major exhibition to be held in the Perth Town Hall. The exhibition will showcase the evolution of Art Deco in Perth, highlighting its architectural, cultural, and aesthetic impact during the 1930s and beyond. Through a series of 20 didactic panels, archival photos, architectural artifacts, and curated displays, the exhibit will immerse visitors in the opulent Art Deco era, exploring its origins, the boom in Perth's gold and agriculture sectors, and how Hollywood influenced local tastes and lifestyle.

The exhibition will be held throughout April 2025, and we need volunteers to assist in staffing the event. Along with the exhibition we will also be doing our guided walks through the central business district.

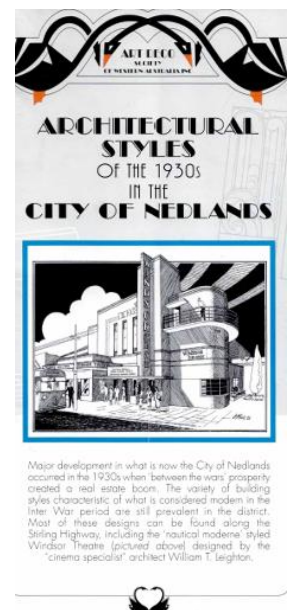
If you would like more information on the exhibition or would like to volunteer to assist, please email the Society on artdecowa@gmail.com or contact Karl on 043 888 5275. In addition, if you have interesting artefacts, jewellery, clothing or ephemeral and would like to make them available for the exhibition please contact the Society to discuss.

Guided Heritage Walks Program

In addition to the Exhibition, the Society has been awarded a grant from the Heritage Council to refresh our guide brochures and information for guided walks in Nedlands, Mt Lawley and the Town of Beverley. We will be undertaking these walks as part the National Trust Heritage Festival in mid-April 2025.

The walks are also intended to be an opportunity for future guides to receive expert training in delivering Art Deco Discovery Walks.

If you would like more information on our guided walks program or would like to be become a guide then please email the Society at artdecowa@gmail.com or call Karl on 043 888 5275.



Please see the link to the press release from the Minister for Heritage (the Society gets a mention!)

<https://www.wa.gov.au/government/media-statements/Cook%20Labor%20Government/Record-number-of-heritage-grants-awarded-in-2024-25-round-20241128>

Annual Christmas Picnic 2024



Gathered at Queens Gardens - Louise, Yvonne, Merran and Max... with Massimo in the foreground. Rowena, Annelle and Kevin looking at the camera in the background.



Kevin listening attentively as Jean makes a point.



Pam chatting in the shade with Annelle.



Helen enjoying a cupper!



Maria and Massimo sharing a joke.



Karl and Yvonne comparing notes before the surprise announcement.



Philip thanking everybody for all their hard work in 2024.