

# Bev Gannon

Somehow, amidst the chaos of life in Greenough (south of Geraldton) with four children, horses, chooks, dogs, and the odd fox, Bev Gannon has returned to her passion for painting and drawing.

**B**ev Gannon's works speak vividly of country life. Race meetings where glamorous ladies drink too much champagne; the book club; Nippers at the beach; Surf Lifesavers; children's ballet classes; and 'Picking Flowers for Mother' on a lonely dusty road with the massive expanse of red landscape as a backdrop dominating the pitifully small humans searching for its treasures.

Often humorous, Bev Gannon's works are also a visual diary of a fast-paced life.

Born in Kellerberrin, Bev grew up on a small farm in Shackleton. She was educated at Loreto Convent, Claremont before studying fine art at Curtin University in the late 70s. This was followed by Graphic Design at Perth Tech (now Central Metro TAFE), which



resulted in a diverse career as a graphic designer. Between her studies, Bev worked in the Kimberleys at Moola Bulla Station as a bookkeeper, and as a receptionist in Broome and Kununurra where she accepted commissions to make paintings of the region. It was her depictions of colourful characters in everyday life which proved popular, and these are now the basis for her output.

With four children aged between six and sixteen, spare time is hard to find. Bev discovered Genesis paints in October last year, and they changed the manner of her painting.

"You don't have the setting up and cleaning up routines of traditional oils," says Bev. "You can come back to the painting whenever you like, as it will still be wet and able to be worked on. It only dries when you apply a heat gun. I find I am completing more detailed work now because I'm not waiting for days between layers for paint to dry. I

can keep moving with the momentum of the painting and keep my interest up."

Bev goes on to say, "There's no worry of brushes in turps or paint drying on the palette. I also find when using the odourless solvent instead of traditional mediums and turps, my skin doesn't come up in blotches, and the solvent doesn't trigger my asthma."

Bev Gannon began exhibiting in 2003 and has won several awards, including People's Choice at the 2003 Perth Royal Show. She held a solo exhibition last year at McKenzie Gallery, Claremont; and entered the Doug Moran Portrait Prize and the Sydney Equine Prize in 2004. She is currently represented by Yallingup Galleries, Yeltrah Gallery in Herne Hill, Jahroc Gallery (Margaret River), and Goldsmith's Hall Gallery in Geraldton.

View more information on Bev Gannon's website: [www.bevgannon.com.au](http://www.bevgannon.com.au) n