Dear Students, 07.08.20

You know how passionate I am about teaching, about watercolour, and about facilitating your ongoing enjoyment of the medium and the classes I hold which aim to teach you.
However it has become patently obvious that Covid-19 is here to stay for some time.

I’ve been very proactive trying to keep you all painting, as well as I can, with tips and tricks and suggestions from facebook, with newsletters making suggestions and writing editorials, and also with my slew of online workshops, which I must say were extremely popular. I’ve recently begun my first full-on Online Zoom Absolute Beginner’s class. (Yes, they’re my guinea pigs.)

I was hoping that by October, term 4, Covid-19 would be on the back-burner, so to speak, and we might go ahead and operate as per normal.
Clearly, with the recent Victorian upsurge in cases, this is a fluid and dangerous environment, which I, for one, don’t want to be caught in, and don’t want my business or my students to be caught in, AGAIN!
It’s obvious that at any time a spike in cases could cause both danger to individuals and a shutdown of MY business again. I’m not prepared to do that for a second time.
Anyone who downplays the danger of this tenacious virus is kidding themselves.
Essentially it turns what is supposed to be a relaxing and enjoyable, free and fun environment into a worrying and difficult environment, especially for me given the nature of teaching and demonstrations. Covid and Classes do not mix. I’m not going to go through the reasons, …they’re pretty obvious.
Luckily the overwhelming majority of students who were kind enough to respond to the email I sent to all of my students from the January – March 2020 term, have said
*“that while I would prefer to enjoy face to face classes, the current situation is not ideal, and I would be happy to transfer to zoom, even though I’m not familiar with it, for the foreseeable future so that I can continue with my course.”*
I’m going to conduct the ongoing classes of your terms on Zoom for the foreseeable future. You can join, or wait until I offer it again face to face, in a year or two’s time, if I ever do.

To facilitate the move to Zoom for now, I will be offering every student who wants it, a private 5-10 minute tutorial (on zoom, and FROM zoom) to help them get used to the platform. After you have enrolled, and closer to class, I’ll send an email regarding this mini tutorial where you can accept it if you need to.

This term of zoom classes will have just one option, 10 weeks.
Those who are owed a class (9 of 10 students) or 2 classes (full 10) from last term will be remunerated in the form of a voucher when you enrol. Those who have re-enrolled in Face to Face already, I’ll be in contact as to how to refund you.

Zoom is unbelievably easy. Fun to use, comfortable to be at home, easy, and quick. It’s also free.
I will STILL need a decent class number to get your class going, but having access to the WHOLE COUNTRY , and not just the Northern Beaches should facilitate that!!
It will be my pleasure to bring you your next term / terms of watercolour by zoom. Come on, join us.
This ALSO goes for my Painter’s groups who may join still, and watch still, and enjoy being part of the larger class still.
Yours faithfully…..Jenny. x