

## grahamesydney.com

With the recent revamp of my website I thought it timely to begin producing a brief newsletter (winter and summer) to keep friends and supporters up to date.

Recently awakened from a long period of slumber, the website's new improved format is thanks to admirable work by Fiona Wills here at home, and Mouli Greenlaw, the internet whiz at Babelscribe.

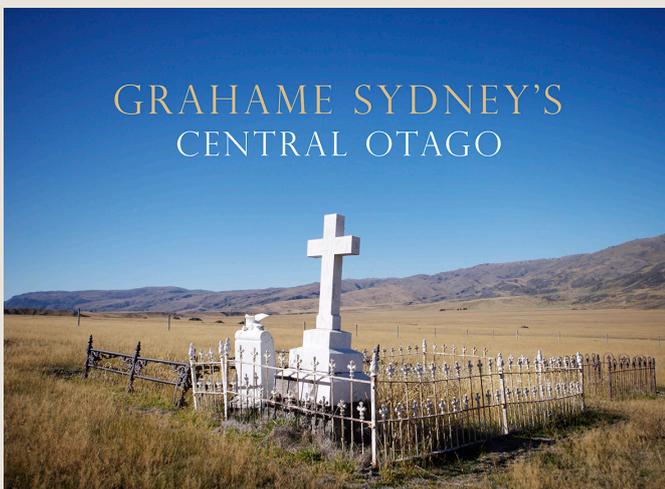
Winter was a long time finding us this year, with no snow and few frosts weeks past the expected due date. The mountains which form our horizon from here – Dunstons to the West, Mt St Bathans to the North, and Hawkduns to the Nor'East – were all quite bare until a southerly storm hit last week, and now all is as it should be: Cambrian Road is a patchwork of frozen snow, ice panes lie shattered at the edge of the stream, and the ranges are magnificently draped in winter white.

This year has been a productive one. Settled and happy at home, I've been able to focus on work in the studio, and have completed four major oils, three of which have gone to new homes off-shore, one in London and two in Sydney.

## Exhibition

*"Down South: Grahame Sydney; Recent Paintings 2001-2011"* opens in late September 2011 at Pataka Museum and Gallery, Porirua. Containing a selection of 26 of my paintings along with 20 photographs, the exhibition will run through to the New Year. This collection, sourced entirely from private owners, is my first exhibition for almost a decade, and none of the paintings contained – all of them landscapes – have been seen in public.

## Book Launch



Above: 'At Falls Dam' Oil on Linen, 2011. 760mm x 1020mm.

Kevin Ireland, a much-respected friend – and sometime painter himself – has written a typically insightful catalogue essay for the show.

## Film Making

It may be noted that there has been little time for indulging my movie-making obsessions: the necessity of earning a living has taken precedence these last six months, but despite this insistent demand my mind is often directed towards the documentaries on which I've been working - all four of them! With luck I'll soon be able to concentrate on getting one or two of these projects pushed further along the assembly line, and out into the proverbially harsh light of the South Pacific.

Finally, with the World Rugby Cup about to bulldoze all other considerations aside, the new terminal at Dunedin Airport will host a range of my photographs in time for the stampede in September and October.

Here's hoping one or two of the rugby fans will notice!

## GCS

Another focus of my time since late last year has been the work on my third book for Penguin NZ, *"Grahame Sydney's Central Otago"* which will be published in October 2011. It contains 130 of my photographs, and is a personal account of my long love affair with certain parts of the region, much of it close to home.

We are in the final days of fine-tuning, and we all hope

the final production will be a pleasure to a wider audience – all those who preserve a fond corner of their hearts for Central Otago, wherever they are - as well as ourselves. I'm never easy to please, as the publishers have discovered long ago, but they've done a beautiful job.

Several of the photographs, will soon be available via the website as signed, limited numbered editions.