

## THE HARD WORK OF CREATIVITY

Port Adelaide versus St.Kilda

3.10pm Sunday July 19<sup>th</sup> 2011

AAMI Stadium

YVETTE WROBY

I started the day in our local park, setting up for an En Plein Air monthly paint-out as one of the consistent participants and organisers. This has meant that I have sat through many a cold Sunday's painting, managing the weather in my warmest snow and footy gear, scarves, fingerless gloves, layer upon layer. I have made signs for our Artists Society (in red, white and black), tastefully done and laminated, but effective as those colours carry from a long way away. We have usually 4-5 artists closely spread around the park, painting trees and ducks and geese, a regular kookaburra who always says hello to me, and a little lake and a few bridges. It started 8 months ago with a Glen Eira Artists Society Paint in the Park Day, and we found that we organisers had no experience of what it requires to set up to paint in the elements. Hence, a regular monthly date has seen some of our members become very good at creating through difficulty.

I got there early today to scout locations because of predicted rain, and in the end there were 5 of us hiding under the shelter of the Cricket Club. The lacrosse members were making a segment for Channel 31, other than that, it was so cold and windy that we didn't have the usual children and passer-by's to chat with. We worked quietly away.

I am spending the arty afternoon with Gui, a classically trained Chinese born artist who runs my local framing shop. She's a brilliant painter who is trying to teach me to draw trees. Then there's Manuel, whose day job is interpreting in Portuguese and is always on call. He makes bright, beautiful and colourful pictures. Jillian and Regina drew. I currently paint in gouache, and hate trees so I was giving it a go today with little success. Sometimes, when I feel this way, if I persist, the work can end up pretty good. Not sure about today's effort, but I stopped at 2.30 to go home and watch the footy.

Today, St.Kilda travelled to South Australia to take on Port Adelaide and they did. They had to manage the travel, packing up what they needed, and the weather and they were there to win. They were creative and hard-working and persisted until reaching their goal. I will remember their effort when I go outside to try and make something of my art piece from today.

I love the feeling of being so engaged with my painting that I forget what else is happening around me. It can, on a good day, become the place where my mind doesn't worry or wonder, just goes into a different gear to deal with the work at hand. I feel like my Saints boys did that today with the

football, they got back some of their flair, energy and belief, their groove, their mojo, their spark, their spirit, and they got results. Riewoldt found his higher plane with four goals, Gamble found his place in the side with a four goal haul; Milne did a few sneaky ones which bounced the way we wished that drawn Grand final one had bounced. And St.Kilda ran and ran and flowed like the good teams do when they take possession of the ball and the game.

Port Adelaide was behind from the very first free before the siren even went. Jackson Trengove (thanks J) gave a punch to Riewoldts throat which resulted in our skipper finding his form and confidence and it only got better from there. St.Kilda always led, by three goals at the first break, five goals at the second, 8 goals at the third, 9 goals at the final siren. It was a 9 goal final term. Nine goals! That's unbelievable for a St.Kilda game and an absolute pleasure for a supporter sitting with her feet up, notepad on lap, blanket over the feet, defrosting from a chilly, raining 14 degrees Melbourne day.

One game, one win, a day of creativity and work. Life is good.

#### GOALS

Port Adelaide: Schultz 2, Hitchcock 2, Gray, Stewart, Pearce, Broadbent

St.Kilda: Riewoldt 4, Gamble 4, Milne 3, Del Santo 2, Montagna, Steven, Schneider, Goddard.

#### BEST

Port Adelaide: Hartlett, Gray, Cassisi, Logan.

St.Kilda: Steven, McEvoy, Del Santo, Riewoldt, Goddard, Gamble, Schneider, Milne, Jones, Gwilt, Montagna.

**UMPIRES** McBurney, Steward, Dalgeish. **CROWD** 16,887.

**OUR VOTES:** Steven (3), McEvoy (2), Del Santo(1).