

Portland CEMA Inc. - Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts

Newsletter - March 2004

President's Report

Farewell Claire

Earlier this month Clare Endacott decided to resign from her position as President. On behalf of all CEMA members I want to thank her for her valuable leadership, her great enthusiasm and wonderful communication skills. No one will ever be able to present an AGM President's report like Clare's!! We wish Clare continued success with her studies, and ask only, "Is Alaska ready for Clare?"

So until the next AGM I have stepped up from Senior Vice President into Clare's hard-to-fill shoes!

History

Our CEMA Arts Centre has been opened 30 years in August. We plan an exhibition in the gallery and will provide a chance to celebrate and reflect. Of course we'll be calling for help to mount the exhibition and it might be a good time for us all to look through our "personal" CEMA memorabilia and consider "loaning it" or "donating it" to the CEMA archives. Jane Hayes set up some wonderful archives leading up to our 50 year celebrations.

How the CEMA Arts Centre came to be, is a story that will fascinate you, and most definitely needs to be told. People with memories of the fundraising, planning and building of the Arts centre will be contacted in the coming months to record oral history interviews to add to the collection started by Lesley Jackson in the 1980s.

The CEMA organisation has been extremely active since 1945 in Portland and the CEMA Arts Centre had been functioning really well for nearly five years when I arrived in Portland in 1979. Hey 25 years!!..am I a local now?

In 1979, I saw "Annie Get Your Gun" a CEMA music group production in the CEMA auditorium. It was great fun. CEMA celebrities I had yet to meet but remember well were Ian Rankin as "Chief Sitting Bull" and Peter Couttie with a rather "Scottish" Buffalo Bill rendition. I attended film group screenings, and still recall the first time I heard June Hedditch laugh out loud at something no one else reacted to, what a treat!!

I was teacher-librarian at the Portland Tech School, and so had Lex reminding me about every Arts Council show that was about to arrive!

25 years later and I've many happy memories of the hours spent in CEMA arts centre and in CEMA activities. I joined Ron Eichler's big performances of "Show Boat" and "Sentimental Bloke" as a chorus member in the early 80s, when CEMA music group could fill the Civic Hall to ca-

capacity night after night! What a buzz! I went as an audience member to the CEMA drama groups performances. I helped Nancy Schwarz teach dance with the CEMA dance group. Oh and somewhere in that time, I met my future husband in a CEMA production! CEMA has a lot to answer for!! More of my CEMA memories, some other time.

Returning To The Present

Please support the Official Opening of the June Hedditch Studio Apartments. Thurs 4th March.

Please contact 3RPC ,(by March 1st) if your group wishes to participate in the Hobbies Expo July 2nd and 3rd.

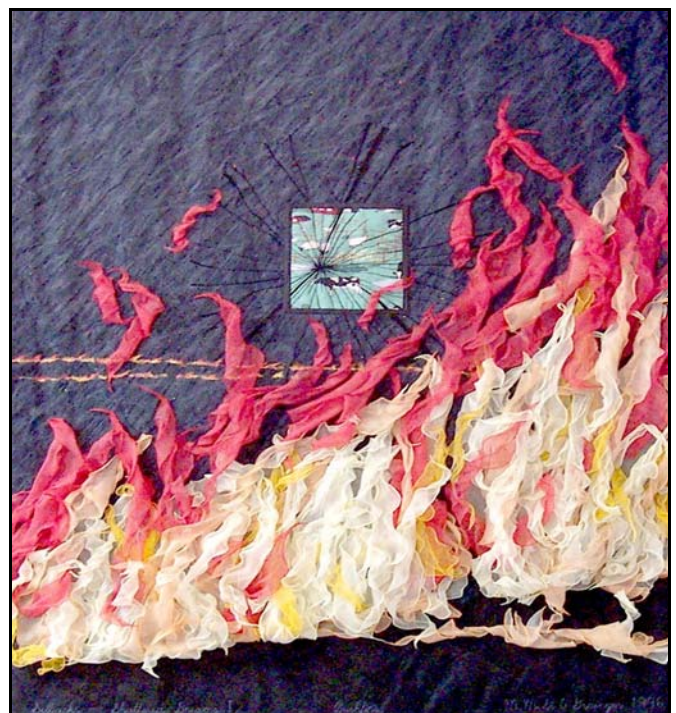
Have fun in your groups and spread the word about this wonderful organisation.

Jan Colliver (Acting President)

Membership Secretary's Report

Memberships continue to come in although at a much slower rate now. Well done to those groups who have been so conscientious. We now have 179 members with some groups having 100% members paid up.

Bill & Bev Martin (Membership Secretaries)



"Bushfire" from "Setbacks & Shattered Dreams", a quilting exhibition at CEMA Arts Centre

CEMA Online

I am working on the CEMA website again after a decent break for Christmas. It is still has a long way to go, and I wouldn't envisage all the groups pages being finished before the end of the year. Even then it should be a continually evolving thing and so never really finished. For an idea of how a groups page should look, go to the Choral Group page which is approaching completion.

We have some new official CEMA email addresses:
June Hedditch Studio is jhstudio@portlandcema.org.au
The Arts Company is artsco@portlandcema.org.au

Do not confuse our new website with the old one that was created in 2000 as a student project. The new website address is portlandcema.org.au do not search for it with Google as you will find yourself at the old site.

Warren Mars (Webmaster)

THE ARTS COMPANY

New stocks of the postcard promoting The Arts Company and JH Studio have been printed; if you are going out of town and can deliver some to gallery, craft centres and tourist offices along the way, please call in and collect some.

Lex Chalmers

Reaching Potentials' Workshop

Janet Schultz held this workshop Dec. 5th and 6th. This identified lots of issues which need to be resolved by various groups and committees. We need more people to get involved in "teams" to:

- Investigate opportunities and innovations for using new technologies
- Identify needs of young artists
- Identify training needs of volunteers and initiate a recruitment drive
- Investigate partnerships with corporates and/or Council and/or State Government
- Explore strategies for linking, branding and promoting the CEMA Arts Centre and The Arts Company as an associated council-owned arts building
- Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with Tourism and the Economic Development Unit
- Develop a demonstration program for the arts with portable signage
- Forge new links and strengthen existing partnerships
- Forge links and raise awareness beyond the Shire
- Investigate opportunities to develop a buddy system
- Review the current structures of C.E.M.A. Inc. and The Arts Company.

All Welcome!

The full Report of the workshop will be placed on the C.E.M.A. Inc. web site soon.

Lex Chalmers

Choral Group

The Portland Choral Group continues it's recovery with a welcome to new and returning members Liz Farnsworth & Chris Parker. Numbers are good and the singing is good.

Warren Mars (Bass)

Community Concert Band

We have enjoyed our start to 2004. Saturday Fresh Market and the June Hedditch Studio opening have provided us with reasons to rehearse a little harder!

We STILL need more players. If you know anyone with woodwind or brass experience....bring them down to the CEMA arts centre from 7.45 pm any Thursday. Eddie our conductor is really patient, and we're a friendly bunch who range from 14 years old to 60? plus..

Ron Colliver (Drummer)

Fibre Group

The Fibre Group members continue to meet every Thursday from 10 am - 3 pm. At present members are working on their own projects. We will be attending the Sharing Day at Streatham on Tuesday 16th March. A number of members will attend. The competition is a doyley in any medium. We are asked to bring articles with a difference to display and some to sell.

The Coat of Arms is completed. A date is to be set to cut the tapestry down. New members would be most welcome.

Josephine Koch (Secretary)

Historical Society

Our society turns 40 in April! Our next meeting is at 2.30 pm, Thursday March 4th in The CEMA Arts Centre. The main business of the meeting will be to finalise the details for our birthday luncheon in April.

Betty Vivian (President)



The Choral Group singing "Carols in the Street"

FILM GROUP

CEMA Film are pleased to report the successful trip to Yackandandah for the 2 X 35 mm projectors.

Both machines are now ensconced in a cupboard at the CEMA Arts Centre. Clinton and I are working to make the systems work with venue. When all is ready there will be a "dress rehearsal" For this we hope to have the recent Australian comedy: 'Beware of Greeks Bearing Guns'.

Until all is ready we will continue with our normal 16 mm format.

Allen Jones (Secretary)

Sticky Planet

Sticky Planet, who have recently returned from a very successful tour in Europe, present:

"All That Glitters"

A comic rags-to-riches story of Sid and Lena, who are an Australian husband and wife vaudeville team, transfixed under the spell of greed and gold.

A very funny show, that incorporates acrobatics, balancing, political commentary, hoola hoops, box manipulation and other circus stunts. Great family entertainment.

Saturday, March 6, 8 pm
Narrawong Mechanics' Institute

Adult \$20, Concession \$16, Student \$13, Family \$64

Poetry Reading Group

Members please note!! Our next meeting will be held on March 14, (second Sunday instead of the third).

January and February meetings were well attended and readings which ranged from Chaucer to Peter Bakowshi (2001) as usual provided interest and enjoyment.

Readers and listeners are always welcome to share our meetings which are informal and social.

Dawn Turner (Convenor)

PIONEER QUILTERS

The quilters will meet on Monday, March 15th at the Arts Co. in Julia St. at 10 am. **Please note the change of date due to the long weekend. After a short business meeting we will be having a workshop to make a "Welcome" wall hanging, finished size - 12"x 30".

You will need to bring the following:

- backing material - 3/8 yard
- binding - 1/4 yard
- background for the letters in welcome - 1/4 yard (or more if you want the same background for the other blocks)

- 12 different coloured materials - 1/8 yard
- Batting - 1/2 yard
- Quilter's 1/4" ruler, pencils for light and dark material, pencil sharpener, templastic and scissors, fabric scissors, 1/2" graph paper (if you wish to design own blocks), Vliesofix, pins, needles, threads.

The group also meets on the 4th Monday of the month for a casual sit 'n sew day - next casual day is 22nd March.

We have a busy program planned for the year - new members always welcome. Happy Quilting!

Chris Parker (Secretary)

Theatre Group

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

After the success of last year's productions, the theatre group is very excited about its upcoming play 'The Importance of Being Ernest'. It's a humorous play by Oscar Wilde, with many twists in the story, about love, lust and . . . Bunburying.

Directors Jason Oates and Kerrie Farnsworth, and the small cast of the play, are, are all very enthusiastic and already rehearsing.

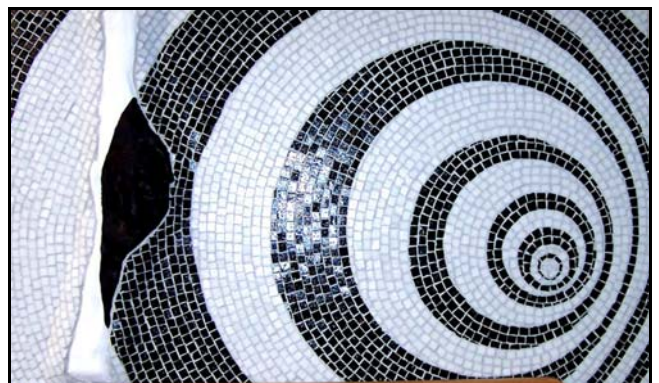
If anyone wants to be involved in any way, eg. costumes, hair, makeup, set design, acting (there are still a couple of male roles available), they can come and have a look on Wednesday or Sunday evenings. 'The Importance of Being Ernest' will hit the stage in June.

Last year the theatre group tested their 'Act Up' teen workshops. After seeing the overwhelming enthusiasm of the teenagers, and the success of their production, the classes will be continuing this year, with a broad range of skills being explored. Many plans are being made with regard to the workshops: theatre sports, mask making and more. We're in for a fun year.

Towards the ends of the year, we'll be taking part in what we've been calling 'The Fiona Project'. More on that later.

Overall, the theatre group has a very busy year planned.

Jess Knight



Perri Taffs - "Untitled 1" from last year's VCE exhibition

ARTISTS' SOCIETY

This week 2 members have been organising the Wood, Wine and Roses Art Exhibition to be held this weekend.

On Saturday, March 6th at 9:30 am a professional artist will give a demonstration of portrait painting. Anyone wishing to participate put your name down at the Arts Company. Further information at the Arts Company.

Our Annual Exhibition 2004 is to be held in conjunction with the Take Note Music Festival. This will be in the Civic Hall Supper Room from March 26th to 28th. This exhibition is for non-members and members. For further information ring Jenny Ward, Jeanette Huppertz or Kathy Page.

Betty Trewavis (Convenor)

June Hedditch Studio

This exciting development and The Arts Company's Artist Residency Program will at last be officially launched on Thursday, March 4th at 5.30 pm. All members of C.E.M.A. Inc., which is sharing the cost of the occasion, and of The Arts Company are invited. Please take this as your personal invitation.

In keeping with the traditions of country hospitality (June would have made a loaf into sandwiches and at a Wednesday Coffee Morning would have organised others to do the same), members of C.E.M.A. and The Arts Company are asked to bring a plate of tasty finger food - or sandwiches!

Guest speaker at the launch will be Kaz Paton, who is a member of the Regional Arts Victoria Board and the Director of the Colac Performing Arts Centre. Kaz is a very appropriate choice as June Hedditch was a founding Country Member of the Victorian Arts Council from 1969 to 1974, and Kaz now represents our district on the Board of its successor, Regional Arts Victoria. We look forward to her first visit here.

The June Hedditch Committee has sent invitations far and wide, to media outlets and Art Galleries throughout South Australia and Victoria. This Launch is helping to promote the whole project and arts facilities in Portland to artists everywhere, as well as providing an opportunity to celebrate them and to thank sponsors who have contributed to the Studio-Apartments and development of the Residency Program - including the Arts Victoria, Regional Arts Victoria, the Glenelg Shire and the Port of Portland.

The Portland arts community acknowledges June's support for cultural development in Portland through naming the Studio-Apartments after her, and looks forward to the stimulus that many visiting artists, writers, performers and tutors will continue to bring to The Arts Company, local artists and performing groups, and the region.

Lex Chalmers

Keep Passing Open Windows

Angela Blakely has created this exhibition to capture the sense of grief experienced by eight women, each of whom has lost a child as a result of suicide. It consists of a combination of photographs, text and mementos, which attempt to capture what is gone and what is potentially lost.

February 3 - March 9
CEMA Arts Centre

Mukesh Sharma Visiting artist

An exhibition by Portland's first international artist-in-residence Mukesh Sharma.

18 to 22 March
Portland Bay Press, 21 Julia Street, Portland

Mukesh Sharma will run a workshop on screen printing on Saturday, 20 March. For further information contact Annette Taylor - Ph. 0427 053 418

Take Note Concert Series 2004

March 25 - 28

Indoor and unique outdoor venues at Portland, Condah, Dartmoor & Mount Gambier

Opening Soirée

This opening will feature an ensemble from the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Orchestra, plus Gourmet Food & Fine Local Wines

6.30 pm, Thursday, 25 March
New City Hall, Mount Gambier.
Adult \$35 Concession \$28

To book for this concert, contact the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre - phone (08) 87238741

Australian Children's Choir [Concert for School Children]

Friday, 26 March
All Saints Parish Primary School, Portland
Free

Launch of Take Note & Portland Artists' Society Exhibition

This opening will feature Jonathon Bradley, pianist plus a string ensemble from the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Orchestra, Gourmet Food & Fine Local Wines, and Art works from artists within the Green Triangle Region.

6.30 pm, Friday 26 March
Civic Hall, Portland
Adult \$30 Concession \$24

Bells & Organ

This concert will feature Federation Bells & Pipe Organ and a cameo appearance by Music Glenelg Aquarelle Sostenuto, The Australian Children's Choir and the Music Glenelg Tutti Singers. A Gourmet Morning Tea will be provided.

9.30 am, Saturday 27 March
St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Portland
Adult \$18 Concession \$14 Student \$10 (under 16 yrs)

Country Brass

This concert will feature The Greater Bendigo City Concert Brass plus Gourmet Food and Fine Local Wines for sale.

12 noon, Saturday 27 March
'Gometra', on the Condah / Coleraine Road
Adult \$18 Concession \$14 Student \$10 (under 16 yrs)

land saxophonist Steven Majstorovic. Gourmet Food and Fine Local Wines for sale.

3 pm, Saturday 27 March
Waterfall Gardens, Dartmoor
Adult \$18 Concession \$14 Student \$10 (under 16 yrs)

Gala Performance Mount Gambier

This gala concert will feature the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Orchestra, the Australian Children's Choir, and the Music Glenelg Festival Singers, presenting a major Choral work - The Creation by Joseph Haydn.

7.30 pm (SA time), Saturday 27 March
Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre, Mount Gambier
Adult \$25 Concession \$20

For bookings phone the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre - (08) 87238741

Gardens Concert

This outdoor concert will feature The Greater Bendigo City Concert Brass Band, the Portland Citizens Brass Band and the Casterton Vice Regal band. Refreshments provided by Portland Service Clubs.

10 am, Sunday 28 March
Botanical Gardens, Portland
Admission by donation

Gala Performance Civic Hall Portland

A concert program similar to items at the Gala Concert in Mount Gambier, including a major Choral work - The Creation by Joseph Haydn.

2 pm, Sunday 28 March
Civic Hall, Portland
Adult \$15 Concession \$12 Student \$8

For Ticket Sales and Bookings for all concerts in the Glenelg Shire, phone (03) 5522 2301

Jazz In Dartmoor

Featuring PLANS, a contemporary Jazz Group led by Port-