

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

Newsletter - May 2004

### President's Report

IT WAS DISAPPOINTING NOT TO HAVE A QUORUM AT OUR LAST EXECUTIVE MEETING!

We stayed and had a valuable discussion, and entertaining time looking through some CEMA memorabilia recently donated by a family member of the late Eve Hogan. Wonderful programs and newspaper cuttings! So many members of the Portland and district community have had a period of involvement in CEMA.

Some weeks back I attended an evening with retail and tourist operators at Sandilands. The television ads produced by Peter Corbett were launched that evening. Guest speakers and brainstorming focussed on how to promote Portland. I was asked "Why are you here?" by a couple of people and was happy to tell them about The Arts Company, The June Hedditch studio, recent residencies, the Historical Group and the garden's cottage and CEMA Inc itself. Some of our CEMA groups are very much involved in retail and tourism!!

I enjoyed showing my recent SERVAS guests from Holland over The Arts Company. Annette's Mosaic workshop was in full swing, and Carmel graciously explained the various etching techniques used in the wetland's exhibition, thanks to everyone for being so hospitable to visitors. I think my guest's reported that there is nothing about Portland's attractions in the Lonely Planet guide. What can we do about that?

I'd love to hear from any member who attended the Rotary Drive In night. What did our ads look like on the big screen?

It was great to see the photograph of Life Member Betty Vivian (and her cat), in the real estate and car sales magazine, the Historical Society got quite a bit of press coverage for their birthday celebrations. Congratulations again to the Historical society!

Enjoy your artistic pursuits.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR GROUP IS REPRESENTED AT THE NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING!!

Jan Colliver (Acting President)

### Membership Secretary's Report

As this is an inactive time in the membership business we will report on the launch of "Meeting Place" at Horsham where we represented CEMA on Sunday 28th of March.

Nicky Downer, president of Regional Arts Australia launched the program for the biennial conference to be held at Horsham Showgrounds from the 21st to the 24th of October. Donna Jackson is the artistic director so we can be assured this will not be a conventional conference, but instead part conference, part festival and lots of hands on stuff.

A large crowd which included politicians, Northern Grampians CEO, councillors, council officers, new Regional Arts Victoria CEO Lindy Bartholemew & arts people were directed to the "chook shed" at the showgrounds.

The bird cages held a wide range of objects & images placed by RAV staff to invoke thought and discussion on "What is Art?" Nicky Downer is a very entertaining speaker and before launching "Meeting Place" claimed the "Rhode Island Red Championship" as she was wearing a bright red suit and had a blue ribbon to prove it!

Northern Grampians Mayor Bernie Dunn spoke at length without as much as a note on the importance their Shire places on the value of the arts.



Betty Vivian makes her speech at the Historical Society's 40th Birthday Celebrations

They were very proud of their successful application to have the conference in Horsham.

Some of the best art being produced in 2004 in Australia will be featured with three major commissions on site. A nation wide invitation to compose the "Skinny Dog Symphony", to be played at the Horsham Greyhound track will be an exciting opportunity for aspiring musicians. This three minute symphony is to be composed of one minute lead up, one minute race and one minute grand parade. One for the Concert Band?

This will be an enormous weekend for Horsham as the conference and the Awakenings Festival are being run in tandem.

If you find yourself in Horsham with some spare time do not miss the Art Gallery. We even found it open at 9 am on Sunday morning.

Bill & Bev Martin (Membership Secretaries)

## ARTISTS' SOCIETY

On the 26th March we held our Annual Exhibition in the Civic Hall Supper Room in conjunction with the "Take Note" musical festival. Few paintings were sold but a lovely display was showing.

We have hung the winning paintings in the Argyle Gallery at The Arts Company. Also a new display has been hung at the Arts Company, mainly paintings that were in the exhibition.

We are still meeting on Thursday afternoons 1 pm - 3 pm. Anyone interested come and join us.

Betty Trewavis (Convenor)

\*Editor's note - A sampling of this exhibition can be seen on the internet in the "exhibitions/performances" section.



"Lobster" created by Gordon Stokes and his team from plastic found on the seashore.

## Someone To Watch Over Me

Nella Ortisi (soprano) and Allan Zavod (pianist) present the music of George Gershwin, one of America's most prolific composers.

The show highlights the music, the movies and musicals, and the life of Gershwin himself. If you saw The Three Chinese Tenors perform in Portland last year, you'll remember the vivacious and talented Nella Ortisi, who was the supporting act. Nella is the star of this performance, but she will have Zhou Hao, one of the 3 Chinese tenors as her support act!

A night of delights for lovers of Gershwin.

8 pm, Friday, 28 May  
CEMA Arts Centre

## FILM GROUP

At last, the Film Group has screened a film on the new 35mm projectors. On the 17th of April we screened the notable surfing film 'Step into Liquid'. Our convenor Clinton Saunders is a dedicated local surfer and this screening brought together two of his many passions - surfing and film.

As first time borrowers of 35mm our advertising rights were restricted, and this is the reason we could not advertise as usual. However through word of mouth in the surfing community we screened to approximately 60 people.

Our next film at 7.30 pm on Friday the 30th April is the recent release 'The Old Man Who Read Love Stories' It stars Richard Dreyfus, Timothy Spall, Hugo Weaving and Cathy Tyson. A man is forced to confront a dangerous jaguar and his own past through the sacrificial killing of the beast he has grown to love. This film may also be screened in the afternoon. Please watch advertising for confirmation or contact Allen.

If your CEMA or community group would like to run a film fund-raiser contact Clinton Saunders (Convenor) or Allen Jones (Secretary).

Allen Jones (Secretary)

## Historical Society

The May meeting will be on Thursday May 6th at 2.30 pm in the CEMA Arts Centre. Program: video of the opening of the Gardens Cottage in 1965.

The subject of the History House display for May/June is the Society's 40th birthday.

Betty Vivian (President)

## **The Last of the Red Hot Lovers**

is returning, with Jackie Weaver and Max Gillies. More than a third of the seats have already been sold, so don't miss the chance to see this show, as many people did last year! Phone (03) 5522 2263 for bookings.

8 pm, Saturday, 22 May  
CEMA Arts Centre  
Adult \$30 Concession \$24 Student \$15 Family \$90

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\***

This performance is on Saturday, 22 May (not Friday 21 May as previously advertised)

## **portland bay press**

### **Successful Opening For Wetlands Exhibition**

Mr Colin Dunkley, the CEO for Glenelg-Hopkins Catchment Management Authority was joined by a healthy throng for the opening of 'Wetlands', the latest exhibition of Portland Bay Press, on Friday, April 2nd.

The exhibition and full-colour catalogue, sponsored by the GHMA, presents 15 works from 13 printers, showing a range of wetlands themes and images, and an array of printing techniques such as: drypoint, solar-plate, monotypes and digital capture. The exhibition runs till the end of April.

Andy Govanstone

## **Leadlighter's Guild**

In the last month we have been busy creating a Window for the Raffle Prize. It has been a long process, it's a Peacock (a lot of pieces), and we hope to get a picture in the newsletter soon.

The following Leadlight classes have limited vacancies: The next class starts May 11th and the following will be August 3rd on Tuesday Nights 6:30 - 9:30.

We have 4 new Members which brings it up to 16 and we meet Wednesday Afternoons 1:30 - 4:00, 2nd & 4th Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 - 9:30 and 1st Sunday of the Month 1:30 - 4:30 pm.

Our Community Radio 3RPC-FM will be having a Hobbies Expo and we would like to invite Guild members to volunteer. Could you please put your name on the Notice Board at the Guild, also we need displays of Lamps / Windows / Clocks / Mirrors / Jewellery Boxes / Copperfoil Bowls / Hanging Mobiles / Yachts etc. We will need photos & we will be demonstrating our Leadlight & Copperfoil skills. Dates: Friday, July 2nd, 5 - 9:30 pm & Sat, July 3rd, 10 - 5 pm. Setting Up: Friday after 1 pm.

The Leadlight Guild is now on the big World Wide Web along with many other Groups from The Arts Company, visit [www.portlandcema.org.au](http://www.portlandcema.org.au) and go to the "Groups" page. If you have photos or information to add to the site contact us.

Thanks to all who have helped with cleaning years of dust and cobwebs from the rafters. New & Old Members always welcome to come in for a cuppa & biscuit.

AGM will be July 4th at 1:30 pm.

Pamela Travers (Convenor)

## **PIONEER QUILTERS**

The next meeting of the Pioneer Quilters will be on Monday, 10th May. We will have a day where different members share various techniques for making different blocks, short-cuts, etc.

One of the techniques will be making "Flying Geese". Members need to bring 4 x 3 and 7/8" squares for the background and 1 x 7 and 1/4" square of coloured material to make "Flying Geese". For other techniques bring your scrap bag!

Our next sit 'n sew day will be May 24th - we will be working on the Millennium Quilt so we encourage as many members as possible to come as we are keen to get this project finished!

We always welcome new members at any of our meetings.

Happy quilting!

Chris Parker (Secretary)

## **Theatre Group**

Rehearsals for The Importance of Being Earnest have been underway for nearly 2 months. The cast and crew have been putting their best feet forward and are well on their way. They were thinking of a 1920's theme but have now decided on the traditional Victorian style.

The cast include some old faces that we have seen in previous productions and some new ones. The Importance of Being Earnest goes on in June, COME AND SEE US!

Jess Knight



The Two Nancys at the Historical Society Celebrations.

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## **Wallflowering**

by Peta Murray

Noeline Brown (The Mavis Bramston Show, Blankety Blanks) and Doug Scroope (Shout, Singing in the Rain) star in this delightfully hilarious play about the nature of marriage, the pursuit of happiness and the perfect foxtrot.

Another high quality, comedy theatre performance from HIT Productions.

8 pm, Saturday, 15 May

CEMA Arts Centre

Adult \$25 Concession \$18 Student \$10 Family \$62

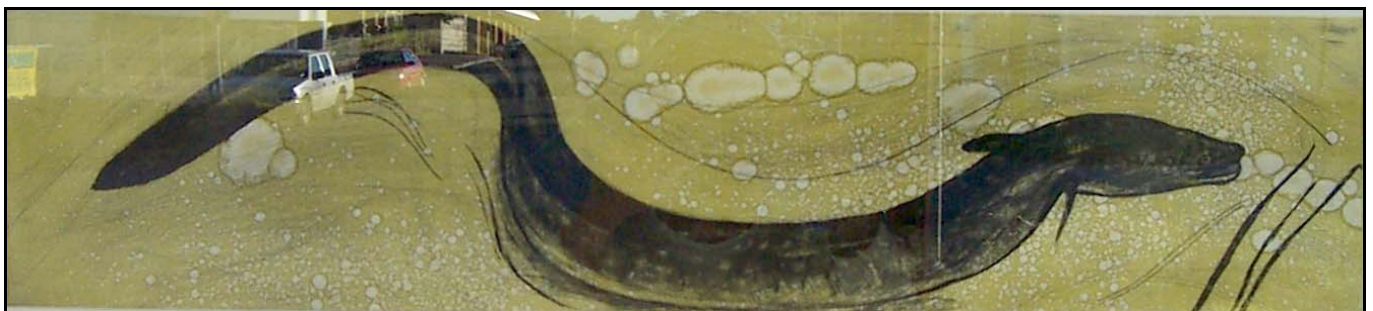
## **I Am Woman Hear Me Draw**

A delightfully catchy title for an amusing and thought-provoking exhibition of the work of Judy Horacek, one of Australia's leading feminist cartoonists.

This exhibition was devised by the National Museum of Australia, to celebrate 100 years since Australian women got the vote, and in 54 cartoons, Horacek casts her satirical eye over the history of the women's movement.

27 April to 4 June

CEMA Arts Centre



Bronwyn Mibus' Eel from the "Celebrating Wetlands" exhibition at the Portland Bay Press