

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

Newsletter - February 2006

President's Report

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL CEMA MEMBERS, AND FAMILIES.

My December activities were rather limited! I attended my dance group dress rehearsal and concert with my left leg plastered (it wasn't an inspiring look for the dance teacher!) I certainly hadn't planned on the "Holiday in North Ward, with the best view in town." Thanks to those CEMA friends who visited and phoned, it certainly kept me smiling.

During my period in plaster, Lex Chalmers sent me a CD, provided by former CEMA member Barry Hayman. It was a recording of the 1975 CEMA Party Review entitled "The Big Mal and Gough Show", originally performed on election eve in December 1975.

I recognised many of the voices of performers; particularly Graham Anson, Peter Couttie, Marion Bellis, Lex Chalmers and Pam Stringer. The recording quality was excellent, and the script (written by Bill Collett and Don Chalmers?) was witty and slightly wacky!

At very short notice, executive members were phoned and a "listening evening" was approved. Thanks to Lex Chalmers for catering and arrangements and to Bev and Bill Martin, and Sue Ireland and Darryl Rigby for assisting. From all accounts it was an enjoyable evening.

More recently Barry Hayman sent a copy of the recording to the National Film and Sound Archives in Canberra. It seems they are impressed with the content and are hoping to feature the CD in part of their public exhibition area. We will keep you posted!

However if members would like to purchase their own personal copy of the CD, they can be ordered for \$10, and proceeds will go to CEMA inc. Contact Lex Chalmers.

Our December executive meeting was cancelled due to a large number of apologies, so we met last Thursday. Bruce Campbell was our guest and spoke of the work he is doing on the economic survey of the arts, and sourcing potential grants. We thank Bruce for his ongoing enthusiasm for his current project and commonsense ideas and encouragement that he willingly shares with Arts groups.

All groups are encouraged to publicly advertise events and meeting times for the start of the 2006 year. Some groups will jointly advertise with Theatre Group, who will hold auditions soon.

Enjoy your Arts.

Jan Colliver (President)

Membership Secretary's Report

A list of unfinancial members was presented to the meeting for their perusal. Many active group participants have not yet accepted our July to June financial year. We still have group members unable to grasp that they must pay both group and CEMA membership. Of course this is falling on deaf ears as these people are not now receiving a newsletter. Should the solution be paying combined group & CEMA as the Woodturners have done for years?

Good to hear that the Theatre Group have chosen "Blithe Spirit" for their next production which is usually a good source of new members.

Bill & Bev Martin (Membership Secretaries)

THE ARTS COMPANY

Annual General Meeting

The Arts Company Annual General Meeting will be held at 19 Julia Street on Monday, April 10th at 7.00 pm. It will be preceded by a barbecue tea and informal get together at 5.30 pm. Group Members, CEMA members, Friends of The Arts Company, and members of the public are invited to attend. More details will be included in later newsletters.

All officer positions will be declared vacant at this meeting, and a number of present office bearers have informed the Committee that they will not be re-nominating.



The Portland Arts Centre's new statue.

Gallery Art Work Selection Policy

At its last meeting the Committee of Management adopted a new policy for the selection of work for the gallery and shop, and for the procedures to be followed by artists and The Arts Company when work is submitted.

Details of procedures will be circulated to groups and available at the desk. Once this is done and everyone has had a reasonable time to make themselves fully aware of the procedures, a date will be set for beginning the new policy officially. I ask all volunteers and artists to assist in making the new system work. In time a review will be held, and any problems will be addressed.

Berice Jones (Chair)

Customer Service Workshop

Committee member Jan Lineker will share her expertise in customer service and marketing in this short informative workshop.

The workshop will be an hour filled with tips and ideas especially helpful for present and prospective volunteers in The Arts Company shop.

Tuesday, February 28th, 6 pm to 7 pm
At The Arts Company

All welcome. No cost.

Book Discussion Group

Our group will resume on the first Wednesday in February, (1st).

Our current book is "About a Boy". Please ring to check the time of the meeting, as we may watch the videos over lunch first.

Lyn Smith (Convenor)

FILM GROUP

The Film Group is still in recess.

Allen Jones (Secretary)

Historical Society

February meeting at the Portland Arts Centre on Tuesday 2nd of February at 2.30 pm. Guest Speaker Dr. Ann Miller.

History House display - Nifty Needlework.

Betty Vivian (President)

PIONEER QUILTERS

Happy New Year to all!

Our next meeting is on Monday February 13th at 10 am at the Arts Company.

The Pioneer Quilters, along with several other groups in Portland, are holding an exhibition at The Portland Arts Centre (formerly CEMA) from 1st February to 28th February

We encourage you to visit the exhibition Monday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm .

Our group welcomes new members to any of our meetings.

Happy Quilting

Chris Parker (Secretary)



"Polite Vaudeville" from the Unexpected Archives exhibition at the Portland Arts Centre

HMS Pinafore

After 10 years of touring Australia, this critically acclaimed Gilbert & Sullivan company, led by the very funny actor/singer Brian Hannan, is presenting HMS Pinafore for the last time.

All the great songs and dialogue, as well as many surprises, performed in full costume and set. Don't miss a wonderful afternoon in the theatre, and a fitting finale to a very talented company that has had audiences in stitches for the past decade.

5 pm, Sunday, 5 February
Portland Arts Centre

Adult \$20 Concession \$15 Student \$10 Family \$52

Poetry Reading Group

We take this opportunity to wish the other member groups of CEMA a successful, happy and healthy 2006.

Our first meeting for the new year was held last Sunday, January 15, and a varied programme of self-selected verse was enjoyed.

Next meeting will be Sunday, February 19 at 2 o'clock at the Portland Arts Centre.

Dawn Turner (Convenor)

Theatre Group

Greetings for 2006 from the theatre group! While we have had a little break, we are now going into full swing to put on the Noel Coward play "Blithe Spirit", a ghostly comedy that springs from a séance, with marvellous hilarity! We will be auditioning for cast on Thursday Feb 2 and Friday Feb 3 from 7-9 pm at the Portland Arts Centre with dates tentatively booked for shows in late June 2006.

We are looking for 5 females and 2 males for this play, so we are looking for anyone to come along and show us what they can do!! Everyone is welcome! And if you don't want to act then there are plenty of jobs behind the scenes as well!

This will be Sue Ireland's first go at directing, Jason Oates is our stage manager, which he has done many times before, and Danielle Marasco will be involved with special effects!

We'd love anyone to be involved! Please come along!

Sue Ireland

Double Act

Starring Tina Bursill and Joe Petrucci in a play by Barry Creyton.

We meet Alex & George, once a happily married couple, who meet by chance at a restaurant after their divorce. Their relationship takes off again from this casual meeting and the same problems and issues that were there to pick from before, come out again. The same ones that drove them earlier to seek divorce. The new-found old relationship hurtles toward oblivion as Alex & George desperately seek to save the partnering and in the end are simply saving themselves.

Barry Creyton set out to create his own contemporary version of a Noel Coward style of play. That he succeeded so brilliantly has been witnessed by the rave reviews that the play received in its original Sydney season.

8 pm, Friday, 17 February
Portland Arts Centre

Adult \$30 Concession \$25 Student \$10 Family \$66

Glenelg Shire Arts Program

Welcome to the New Year from the Glenelg Shire Arts Program. The first calendar for 2006 has been posted out. Please phone the Portland Arts Centre on 5522 2263 if you have not received it.

Once again there is an interesting and varied program for the first half of the year and we have appreciated having so much positive feedback.

2005 was a memorable year with many highlights, and in particular the re-branding of the Glenelg Shire Arts Program, including the CEMA Arts Centre being re-named as the Portland Arts Centre. The re-branding package includes a new logo and new eye-catching signage, which identifies the Arts Centre with a more interesting and informative external appearance for the benefit of the general public.

The 2005 touring performance program was varied and received many positive comments from patrons. The visual arts program was equally diverse, from the eclectic combinations of the local 'Happy Gannets' to the high standard of the VCE Secondary Colleges Art and Studio Art works.

The promotion of The Arts Company and the June Hedditch Apartments, included development of new brochures ably assisted by Bruce Campbell - the Arts Research & Marketing Officer - and members of the arts community has sustained an ongoing interest in the Apartments from artists interested in residencies.

Joy Ralph (Assistant CSO) 5522 2301

Genevieve Lacey & Karin Schaupp

This concert is a unique opportunity to experience two internationally acclaimed Australian musicians, GENEVIEVE LACEY (Recorder) and KARIN SCHAUPP (Guitar) presenting an exciting repertoire of music, specially chosen to complement the combination of their respective instruments.

8 pm, Friday, 27 January
St Stephen's Anglican Church

Adult \$30 Concession \$25 Student \$10 Family \$66



PIONEER QUILTERS EXHIBITION

A number of Portland quilters combine their talents for this exhibition, featuring high quality quilt work in a range of sizes and designs.

1 to 28 February
Portland Arts Centre

