

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

Newsletter - May 2006

President's Report

Thanks to Sue Ireland for looking after things last month. This was another busy month for the Arts. Carmel Wallace and her team of artists were farewelled on the Great South West Walk adventure, and we look forward to viewing some of their impressions later in the year.

Some members attended the opening of the "Nancy Malseed Retrospective" at the Hamilton Art Gallery on the 8th of April. It was terrific to see some "familiar" pieces from the former CEMA collection (now Glenelg Shire Collection), hung amidst other works of the same period. Nancy was a keen supporter of CEMA and friend of many of our members. The exhibition will be in Portland in June.

I've attended three recent meetings on your behalf. Karl Hatton presented some visions for the Civic Hall at a recent meeting, and discussed new Victorian government funding arrangements for the Arts. Thank you Karl for the ongoing work you have done on attempting to improve facilities across the Shire. Many of you have lobbied over 20 years or more for some of the improvements needed for the civic hall. Contact Karl or me if you want a copy of the proposed improvements.

The second meeting at the Council offices, was to gauge a need for a volunteers support group in Portland. There were many familiar faces around the table, representing a huge range of community groups. All groups faced the ongoing problem of recruitment and retention of volunteers. It was decided a regular support group was not appropriate at this time, but that useful links through the Warrnambool Hub, would be utilised.

The third meeting was of course the Arts Company AGM. Thank you to outgoing President Berice Jones, who has maintained a huge commitment to TAC, and travelled huge distances to do so. Berice's calm manner, and fair and considered comments on all matters TAC or CEMA have been most valuable.

TAC faces a serious problem after the meeting. No Chairperson or Deputy was forthcoming. I urge all Arts Company members to consider the repercussions of this. Thanks to those who took on secretarial and treasurer duties, and to Karl Hatton who will chair next months meeting. Karl cannot be expected to chair any more meetings after this. He is on TAC as a council officer. Consider what membership of a CEMA group, based at the Arts Company has given you. Excellent facilities, opportunities to make, display and sell works, great social contacts. Leadership is needed. Busy people are welcome to apply!!

Thanks to the craft group for their recent donation of \$80 to executive funds. Groups who have money surplus to current requirements are encouraged to hand it to executive for use with all groups.

St John's Lutheran primary school principal would like to hear from Knitters who would be happy to teach some students knitting for about one hour per week. Ring Les Seifert if you can help

Jan Colliver (President)

THE ARTS COMPANY

The Arts Company AGM was held on April 10th preceded by a beautifully presented and prepared barbecue tea. Thanks to every one who attended and assisted.

At the time of writing the positions of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson have not been filled. For the future success of The Arts Company it is imperative that these positions are filled as soon possible. Please consider this over the next few weeks. I am pleased to report that all other positions have been filled. Congratulations and thanks to Margaret Beames, our new Secretary, and Maria Christie returning as Treasurer.

As retiring Chairperson I thank the Arts Company Committee and all who have assisted me. I hope to continue my support of the Arts Company during the coming year.

The next meeting will be held at 19 Julia, at 5.30 pm on Monday 15th May.

Berice Jones (Retired Chairperson)



Betty Trewavis & Bruce Campbell at the Arts Co AGM

Membership Secretary's Report

Our membership numbers have reached 190! This is a month before reaching that number last year. This is a very slow time in the membership department so we take this opportunity to report on our involvement in other CEMA Inc. activities.

Great to see lots of Portland & District people making the trip to Casterton to hear our choral group members perform at "Sacred Heart on the Hill" and what a performance it was. The choir were in great voice & beautifully accompanied by Sue Podger.

A well chosen program of sacred to popular music was well prepared and just the right length, not an easy achievement. The popular Fr Andrew Hayes and his Sacred Heart Singers also supported the program.

At afternoon tea the comments were glowing, "I wouldn't have missed that for quids." From Casterton Arts who supported the day. "When can you come back again." Hamilton choristers in the large audience were generous in praise & applause. Well done June.

Bill & Bev Martin (Membership Secretaries)

FROM THE ARCHIVES

At 5 pm - 6.30 pm on May 18th...some executive members will meet to do some sorting of archival material. We have had programmes and memorabilia donated by families of former CEMA members and filing is needed.

Many hands are welcome to join us. We will conclude in time to order a pizza before the 7.30 pm exec meeting. Jane Hayes left a system of archival filing. We have gloves and archival boxes set up. If you're interested in preserving our CEMA history you might like to pop along and support us.

Jan Colliver (President)



"Dolphin Under The Sea" from Joy Schultz's exhibition at the Portland Arts Centre

CEMAFILM

present:

The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds

(1972)

Starring: Joanne Woodward, Nell Potts, Roberta Wallach,
Judith Lowry

From the Pulitzer Prize winning play by Paul Zindel, this is the story of Beatrice Hunsdorfer and her daughters, Ruth and Matilda.

A middle-aged widowed eccentric, Beatrice is looking for her life in the classified ads. Poorly equipped to survive modern life, she has nonetheless always managed to muddle through. Her daughter Ruth, making her way through the rebellious phase of adolescence, seems doomed to make the same mistakes as her mother. Quiet Matilda, on the other hand, seeks refuge in her animals and her schoolwork.

The title of the film is also the subject of Matilda's science project and serves as a metaphor for the way life effects each of us differently.

Portland Arts Centre,
Friday, May 19, 7.30 pm

ARTISTS' SOCIETY

We have just held a very successful workshop on the 22nd. This was in watercolour, held by Jill Eckerman from Penola. We had 13 enthusiastic participants, some beginners.

We were sorry to hear that we are losing one of our long-time artists: Sheila Swain, who has been a member since we started The Arts Company. Sheila has been an inspiration to us all with her great knowledge of drawing and watercolour. She is going to Warrnambool, not so far away, but it is their gain and our loss. Sheila we will miss you every Thursday.

We are still meeting on Thursdays at 1 pm - all welcome.

Betty Trewavis (Convenor)

Book Discussion Group

This month we are reading Clive James' "Unreliable Memoirs" The Sunday Times says: "Do not read this book in public. You will risk severe internal injuries from trying to suppress your laughter. What's worse, you can't put it down once started. Its addictive powers stun all normal decent resistance within seconds."

Our next meeting reverts to our normal 1st Wednesday - 3rd May. Venue: 113 Cape Nelson Rd. Time 1:30 pm.

Lyn Smith (Convenor)

More Happy Gannets

The HAPPY GANNETS are back! This loose affiliation of local artists held their first joint exhibition last year and once again display their talents with a variety of subject matter and mixture of media.

1 May to 19 May
Portland Arts Centre

Choral Group

Well we finally got there! After waiting 3 years to present a full choral concert (due to many chorister absences), we fielded 15 singers, conductor and accompanist to the acoustically beautiful Sacred Heart Hall in Casterton on April 9th. A comprehensive and varied program (sacred, spirituals, folk, madrigals and "Broadway") was well received by a large audience and we now have some more funds for music purchase.

If you are a member of ANY CEMA group, you can come to a choir practice any Monday at 7:30 pm at no extra cost. Your CEMA sub covers our membership. Give it a try!!

June Roberts (Convenor)

FILM GROUP

Last month we were very pleased to screen at the Drumborg Hall, proving that this was possible. We have also had good audiences for our April film '84 Charing Cross Rd' both on the Friday evening and Sunday afternoon.

The May screening will be on Friday evening only, but our plans are to present more Sunday afternoon films during Winter and Spring.

The Federation Of Victorian Film Societies AGM will be held on May 27th at 2.00 pm, Erwin Rado Theatre, 211 Johnston St. Fitzroy. Afterwards the prize winning documentary 'The Archive Project' will be screened, followed by dinner at Cafe Beelzebub in Smith St. Further info. or to book a place for dinner (May 20 deadline), contact Richard Purdy on 9376 2763

Short Film Tour: 'On The Road 06', Hamilton, 3rd May.
More info. Tel. 5472 1196

Allen Jones (Secretary)

Historical Society

14 members met for an enjoyable lunch at the Gordon Hotel for the Society's birthday last month.

May meeting: Thursday 4th May at 2.30 pm in the Portland Arts Centre. Program - Show and Tell. Members please bring interesting items and photos.

History House display: Mouse Mania.

Betty Vivian (President)

Leadlighter's Guild

The Guild recently held their AGM at which Miriam Ray was elected Convenor with Heather Clark as the combined Secretary/Treasurer.

A motion was moved that the Leadlighters membership be combined with the CEMA subs (July - June) and to be paid to the Treasurer. The Treasurer will then forward to CEMA the membership forms and a cheque when fees have been collected. A new keying system for collecting the key from IGA will start at the same time.

Five new members have started on Thursday nights with another 3-4 expected to start soon. This brings our financial membership to 20.

Members are looking for "new" ideas for sale in the shop.

As several members work at many different days and times, if anyone is interested in leadlighting it is suggested that you call in at the Arts Co rooms on a Wed afternoon between 1 pm and 3 pm to make inquiries.

Phil Darby (CEMA Rep)

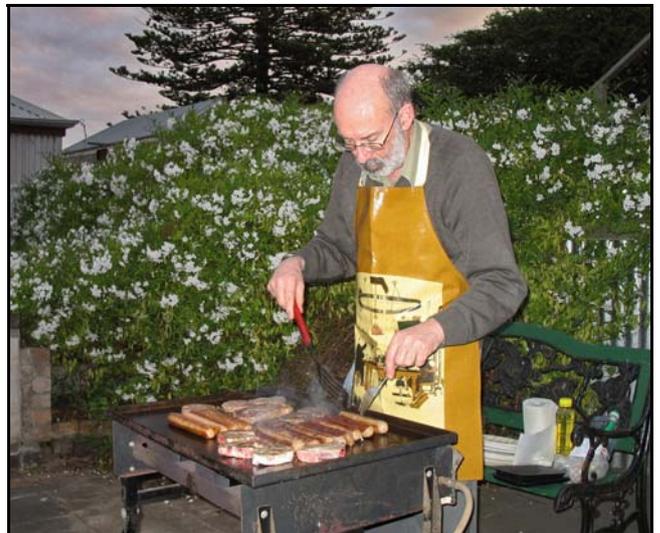
Poetry Reading Group

Although numbers were down at our last meeting, the quality of individual choice for reading was as usual, most enjoyable. To name a few selected were from CJ Lewis, S Sassoon, Pam Ayres, Henry Lawson, Kenneth Slessor and William Evans.

A visitor from Mt Gambier read her own work and we were delighted to welcome her as a guest for the afternoon.

Next poetry reading will be at 2 pm Portland Arts Centre on Sunday, May 21st.

Dawn Turner (Convenor)



Karl Hatton flips the chops at the Arts Co AGM BBQ.

PIONEER QUILTERS

The Pioneer Quilter's group had an excellent workshop last month making "Betty's Cicada Bag" based on a Japanese Pattern, with most of the quilters joining in.

Our next meeting is on Monday, 8th May at 10.30 am at the Arts Company in Julia Street.. The workshop is " Mary's Bag". Quilters will need to have the panels cut out and assembled as shown in the pattern so as the bag can be finished in the workshop. **If you were not at the last meeting

and need a pattern contact me for the instructions.

For our May meeting could members please bring lunch to share.

Next sit 'n sew day is Monday, May 22nd, 10.00 am at the Arts Company.

New members welcome! Happy Quilting!

Chris Parker (Secretary)



The Portland Choral Group on stage at the Sacred Heart Hall in Casterton for their headline concert on April 9th.