

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

Newsletter - December 2008

President's Report

There has been a lot of "Arts Action" again in the last month. Looking back these were just some of my "random" highlights:

- The "Twisted Brothers with Different Mothers" full house concert at the Arts Centre showcasing local performers, with excellent sound by Brian Cavagnino. What a great venue the Arts Centre is!
- The visit from Kristin Rule "The Unconventional Cellist" an absolutely delightful young woman, who stopped off at The Arts Company as part of her tour. The acoustics in the gallery are terrific for small performances, and Nikki at the Arts Company was a wonderful host.
- The unveiling of "The Seat for Vida" near the Courthouse. Congratulations to Carmel Wallace and all involved in the project.
- The St Stephens organ in full throttle for evensong! A memorable evening but don't ask me about the piano!
- Calling Bushdances with Chambo and the gang at Hotspur! What a treat hearing Alison Hilder on her recorder again!
- The Vern McCallum collection photographs currently in The Arts Centre, and seeing that photograph of The Arts Company building.
- The Camera Club's Triptych exhibition at The Arts Company.

My St John's School choir have launched into the Christmas repertoire, and the dance concert is nearly upon me, so I know that the end of year is upon us. Executive will meet on the third Thursday in December at the earlier timeslot of 5pm. There will be no January meeting.

Thanks to all those who volunteer to keep the groups functioning and to those who've attended Executive this year.

Don't forget to ask the upcoming candidates for Council elections what importance they place on The Arts in our shire!

Finally have a happy and safe Christmas and holiday season, and "Enjoy your Arts".

Jan Colliver (President)

Membership Secretary's Report

Memberships are ahead of last year but we urge convenors to check with us to make sure their members are up to date.

Have just attended the classic opera "Madama Butterfly". Small cast and very minimal sets but one of the most powerful performances I have seen with Pinkerton getting booted in his curtain call for being such a cad to the beautiful Cio-Cio-San !! But back to reality with local Drumborg production of "A Christmas Carol" with cast members forgetting rehearsal etc.

Bill & Bev Martin (Membership Secretaries)

THE ARTS COMPANY

Members are looking forward to a happy Christmas and a merry New Year. Our Christmas window will make the Myer windows fade into insignificance. Inside the Argyll Gallery will be an area set up for families to photograph their children in a Christmas setting. A tripod will be available for use. A perfect present for grandparents and family members.

Arts Company members have been invited to display works for sale in the newly refurbished Portland District Health Portland Specialists' Centre.

The Portland Bay Festival Market Day and Open Day saw a steady stream of people through the doors grazing the artists' stalls and watching artists at work in the various studios.

The "Creative Kids" program started with a full class. 2009 will see an expanded program with primary school aged children.

Lesley Jackson (President)



19 & 21 Julia St circa 1870 (courtesy Vern McCallum)

ARTISTS' SOCIETY

The Seymour Cundy wing is ready to take members' works for display and sale. Interested members should bring suitable items in to the Arts Company and give them to Nicki now.

A plan is afoot at the moment for Artists to have a photographic folio of their works available at The Arts Company for interested customers to browse without having to go rummaging through cupboards. Nicki will photograph members' works and issue them with a folder.

Our AGM will be earlier next year and is planned for Thursday, 30th April at 12 noon. * Members please note.

Our Christmas breakup this year will be at The Royal Hotel on the evening of Tuesday, 9th December. Get there 6:30-7:00 pm.

Warren Mars (Member)

Leadlighter's Guild

Some Leadlighters are currently busy creating Christmas items to sell in the Art Gallery.

Last Tuesday the Leadlighters welcomed a group of 15 people from the Craft Group and CWA to foil and solder a Christmas Angel.

On the 7th December the Guild will be helping the adult group at Kyeema to create Leadlight Angels.

Leadlight Christmas Dinner - Thursday, 18th December for tea at the Gordon Hotel from 7pm onwards. Please ring Miriam or Morella if attending.

Merry Christmas to all CEMA members and hope you remember The Arts Company when you are buying gifts for your loved ones this Christmas.

Heather Clark (Secretary/Treasurer)



Visitors browse the stalls in the Studio Gallery at the Market Day.

PORTLAND FILM SOCIETY present:

The Black Balloon

Elissa Down, 2008, Australia
Writers: Elissa Down & Jimmy Jack

Starring: Rhys Wakefield, Luke Ford, Toni Collette, Erik Thomson, Gemma Ward, Lloyd Allison-Young, Nathin Butler

It's not easy being Thomas Mollison. He's turning 16, and his autistic brother Charlie embarrasses him. So do his wacky parents. When his pregnant Mother (Collette) is confined to bed rest, he is put in charge of Charlie (Ford) and with the help of his new girlfriend Jackie (Gemma Ward), Thomas faces his biggest challenge yet.

The Black Balloon is funny and ultimately heart-warming story about fitting in, discovering love and accepting your family.

Portland Arts Centre,
Saturday, December 20, 7.30 pm



Historical Society

The Portland Historical Society will meet at the Richmond Henty Bistro for lunch on Thursday, 4th December at 12 noon. RSVP to Betty or Gwen. This is the final activity for 2008. The Society will then be in recess until February, 2009.

Betty Vivian (President)

PIONEER QUILTERS

Our next meeting will be held on 8th December, at 10.30 am. We will be going to Isabella's, Cape Bridgewater for lunch, then back to the Arts Company for the sharing of a small gift, and some of Jim's shortbread. Bring along ideas for next years syllabus.

We will start off our new year on the 9th February, 2009.

Wishing everyone a happy Christmas.

Dorothy Longney (Secretary)

Splash & Dash with a Touch of Crash

Local painter and writer, Lu Cotter, will be exhibiting her paintings, art structures, and a flotsam and jetsam of treasures found in the local area.

16 December 2008 to 16 January 2009
Portland Arts Centre
Admission free

Poetry Reading Group

At our last meeting the reading of limericks proved most enjoyable. Humour reigned supreme.

Details of our Christmas get-together will be personally advised in the near future. Seasons Greetings to all CEMA members.

Dawn Turner (Convenor)

portland bay press

The Octopus Garden

PBP have had a print exhibition running from early November from the Transition SW TAFE students called "The Octopus Garden". This section of the exhibition was printed at PBP, it was part of a bigger exhibit launched at Whale Bone Gallery in Port Fairy earlier this year.

Cards & Old Works

November 23rd was the opening of our Xmas Show: "Cards & Old Works". Again the community of Portland & District showed support by joining this passionate group of printers. "Cards" displays different printing techniques by pbp members, like lino-cuts, dry-points, screen printing & embossing

Have a look! Its on until mid Jan, 2009.

Cheers!

Therese Dolman (Secretary)

Christmas At Drumborg

In a change from the usual Christmas tree format, Drumborg's local actors will present an adaptation of "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens.
Great entertainment for all the family.

Saturday, December 13th,
Drumborg Hall, 8pm

Santa will visit after the performance with a bag of surprises for the children

Family ticket \$25



Interested visitors relax and observe Artists at work in the Mezzanine studio on Market Day.



Kristin Rule performs in the Studio Gallery at TAC.



Bob Stone demonstrates the use of the etching press at PBP during the Artists' Market last month.



Anna Deacon - "Seagulls over the Ocean", on sale at The Arts Company

How To Write An 'Artist CV'

Session will cover:

- Why do I need an artist CV?
- What should I put in my CV?
- Templates/styles
- Tips for communicating artistic achievements
- Developing & maintaining a working CV

* We'll also touch on writing an 'Artist Bio'

* Bring note pad and pen and your CV if you have one.

This casual session is suitable for artists at any stage of their practice, including those just starting out.

Presented by: Jo Grant, Regional Arts Development Officer

Saturday 13 December, 10am - 12pm

The Arts Company, 19 Julia Street

Cost: FREE

RSVP: 5523 6566 / theartscompany@westnet.com.au
(max. 30 people)



Miriam Ray does the necessary sign work at the Artists' Market last month.



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